



K-IRPC

Kankakee-Iroquois Regional Planning Commission

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December 15, 2014

Mrs. Edie Findeis Cromwell
Environmental Management Support, Inc.
8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite 500
Silver Spring, MD 20910

- * *Economic/Community Development*
- * *Arrowhead Country Public Transit*
- * *K-IRPC Head Start Program*
- * *Rural Transportation Planning*

Re: FY2014 Brownfields Grant Proposal
\$400,000 U.S. EPA Brownfields Hazardous Substances Assessment Grant
\$200,000 Petroleum Assessment Grant
KIRPC, Indiana

Dear Mrs. West:

The Kankakee-Iroquois Regional Planning Commission (KIRPC) and the counties we serve: Benton, Carroll, Jasper, Newton, Putaski, Starke, Warren and White have formed a coalition (the Coalition) to apply for a U.S. EPA Assessment Grant. KIRPC, who will serve as the lead agency and act as the grant recipient/administrator, is submitting the enclosed application for an Assessment Grant on behalf of the Coalition. The Coalition is requesting a \$400,000 Community Wide Hazardous Substance Assessment Grant and \$200,000 Community Wide Petroleum Assessment Grant.

The counties KIRPC represents are located in northwest Indiana. We formed this coalition after our small cities and towns voiced concerns with significant health, welfare and environmental impact brownfields were creating in these small communities and due to the inability of small communities to deal with these issues. The KIRPC region (coalition) covers eight rural counties approximately 3,300 square miles in size. KIRPC, and therefore the Coalition, consists of 8 counties and 38 micro communities. The largest city in the Coalition has a population under 5,900 and two counties in the Coalition qualify as a micro community with a total county population of fewer than 10,000 people. While the Coalition is rural with micro community cities and towns, cumulatively the problems created by our brownfields rival that of a large city. Historically, farming communities have been more tolerant to swings in the economy; however, the latest downturn in the economy has decimated the region with the supporting cities and towns hardest hit. As one major employer after other shuttered manufacturing plants, jobs were lost and a systemic downward spiral ensued. The Coalition area is mired in an economic crisis, with families struggling to meet fundamental needs. Not one of the eight counties (or individual cities/towns) have the resources to manage a successful brownfield program individually but as an established region working together, we can pool our resources and expertise and begin to address the challenges, threats and opportunities brownfields represent for our region. Drawing on our renewable energy experience (home to the largest single concentrated wind farm in the U.S.), a regional goal is to make the KIRPC region the leading renewable energy research, development and manufacturing area in the U.S.

The Coalition has identified more than 690 potential brownfields (gasoline/service stations, bulk petroleum plants, machine shops, metal scrap yards, and manufacturing plants) of known or suspected environmental contamination (hazardous substances and petroleum products), most of which are located in or around the Coalition communities and near one of the four KIRPC river ecosystems. These sites are predominantly located in low-income neighborhoods, adjacent to river ecosystems, or represent direct threats to drinking water sources. Residents are being exposed to brownfields contaminants via direct contact, ingestion, and inhalation due to airborne particulates and vapor intrusion. The Coalition's overriding health and welfare concern is the concentration of brownfields in low-income areas and the impacts the brownfields are creating on the sensitive populations and ecosystems. In addition

A VOLUNTARY PUBLIC PARTNERSHIP SERVING

BENTON - CARROLL - JASPER - NEWTON - PULASKI - STARKE - WARREN - WHITE COUNTIES, INDIANA

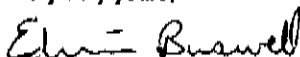
the rural agricultural based of the counties are dependent on a reliable and safe water supply. The citizens of KIRPC micro communities are clearly hurting; some of our target communities have per capita incomes of less than have the U.S. rates and poverty rates that are nearly 2.5 times the national average. While this data is paints a sad picture of a region in decline, the neighborhoods and micro communities around the Coalition brownfields provide a textbook example of environmental injustice with residents fairing far worse than the overall KIRPC region.

With Assessment Grant funds, the can support the redevelopment of brownfields, and provide new and sustainable employment opportunities to the citizens being most impacted by these sites with KIRPC providing assistance to communities that simply cannot support a brownfield program on their own.

The following applicant information is provided as part of the Grant Application:

- a. Applicant Identification: Kankakee Iroquois Regional Planning Commission
PO Box 127
Monon, Indiana, 47959
- b. Dun and Bradstreet (DUNS): 171384444
- c. Funding Requested:
 - (i) Grant type: Assessment
 - (ii) Federal Funds Requested: \$600,000
 - (iii) Contamination: \$400,000 Hazardous Substances and \$200,000 Petroleum
 - (iv) Coalition
- d. Location: Kankakee Iroquois Regional Planning Commission representing Benton, Carroll, Jasper, Newton, Pulaski, Starke, Warren and White Counties, Indiana
- e. NA- Not a site-specific proposal
- f. Contacts:
 - (i) Project Director: Mr. Edwin Buswell, AICP
Kankakee Iroquois Regional Planning Commission
PO Box 127
Monon, Indiana, 47959
Phone: (219) 253-6658, email: elb@urhere.net
 - (ii) Chief Executive: Mr. Edwin Buswell, AICP
Kankakee Iroquois Regional Planning Commission
PO Box 127
Monon, Indiana, 47959
Phone: (219) 253-6658, email: elb@urhere.net
- g. Date Submitted: December 19, 2014
- h. Project Period: Three years
- i. Population: (i) KIRPC region: 146,647; Benton: 8,854; Carroll: 20,155, Jasper: 33,478, Newton: 14,244, Pulaski: 13,402, Starke: 23,363, Warren: 8,508, White: 24,643
(ii) Total population in Coalition area: 146,647 (U.S. Census Bureau 2010)
- j. Special Considerations Checklist: Attached

Very truly yours,



Edwin Buswell, AICP
KIRPC Coalition, Indiana

**FY 2015 UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (U.S. EPA) BROWNFIELDS
HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES AND PETROLEUM ASSESSMENT GRANT APPLICATION
SUBMITTED BY KANKAKEE IROQUOIS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION, INDIANA**

1. Community Need:

This U.S. EPA Brownfields Coalition Community-wide Assessment Grant Proposal is to address hazardous substances and petroleum contamination at brownfields with redevelopment potential within the jurisdictions covered by the **Kankakee-Iroquois Regional Planning Commission (KIRPC)**, representing eight Indiana counties: Benton, Carroll, Jasper, Newton, Pulaski, Starke, Warren, and White. KIRPC and the eight counties formed this coalition after our small cities and smaller towns, voiced concerns over significant health, welfare and environmental impacts from brownfields and the inability of these micro communities (populations less than 10,000), to address brownfields on their own. Located in Northwest Indiana, the KIRPC coalition (Coalition) covers eight rural counties, encompasses approximately 3,300 square miles, and is comprised of 38 micro communities. The largest city in the Coalition has a population under 5,900 and 25% of the KIRPC counties have populations under 10,000. While the Coalition is mostly rural and populated with micro communities, the cumulative problems created by our brownfields rival those of a large city. Normally, farming communities are more tolerant to economic swings; however, the latest downturn in the economy decimated the region with the micro communities being hardest hit. As one major employer after another shuttered manufacturing plants, jobs were lost and a systemic downward spiral ensued. In instances when work can be found, our residents are forced to travel farther distances; nearly 45% of the residents travel over 30 minutes to work, a percentage 2.5 times the state average, creating additional financial hardship on the KIRPC families. Not only has the lack of local jobs created a financial hardship on struggling families by increasing transportation and child-care costs but it also decimated the services businesses in the small towns that rely on customers to be nearby to visit the diners and shops during the day. This downward spiral has forced service businesses to close as well, compelling the remaining residents to travel outside their communities to shop and meet their basic needs, placing a further burden on the residents. The lack of vibrant downtown districts has been a major obstacle to attracting new companies and investment to the KIRPC region, adding to the cycle of despair for the small towns. The Coalition area is mired in an economic crisis, with families struggling to meet basic needs. Not one of the eight counties (or individual cities/towns) have the resources to manage a successful brownfields program individually but by working together as an established coalition, we can pool our resources and expertise and begin to address the challenges, threats and opportunities brownfields represent. KIRPC is home to Indiana's first, and the largest concentrated wind farm in the U.S. Drawing on our renewable energy experience, a regional goal is to make the Coalition a leading renewable energy research, development and manufacturing region.

a. Targeted Community and Brownfields:

(i) The Coalition communities were developed at a time when industrial facilities were the focal point of communities. Over 100 years of industrial operations created numerous brownfields and had a cumulative impact to the health and welfare of our residents. With this grant, we can determine the extent of brownfields contamination, control contaminant migration, and protect and improve health and welfare of the citizens. The Coalition desperately needs to develop its brownfields program, and an Assessment Grant will provide the funds to begin to tackle these issues and establish a formal brownfield redevelopment approach. We have identified five targeted communities with significant numbers of large brownfields or immediate human health threats located in low-income towns or neighborhoods, creating environmental injustice: (1) **Canal District**; (City of Delphi) contains a former paper mill, former Globe Valve factory and the recently shuttered Peters-Revington furniture factory (closed in 2009); which adjoin the Wabash & Erie Canal Interpretive Center, a museum, Delphi linear park system, campground and poor residential neighborhoods (2) **Kentland**, (Newton County) home to the vacant Bonnell Aluminum Plant (closed in 2009); adjoins poor residential neighborhoods and tributary to Kankakee River (3) **West Knox** home to the former Rockwell Window and adjoining Nor-am Plastics plants (closed in 2009) in the poorest area of the City of Knox and adjoins a tributary to the Kankakee River and elementary school; (4) **Winamac Rail Corridor**, in the town of Winamac, Pulaski County, contains 10 sites known as the Railroad Corridor Redevelopment Initiative (RCRI) along former railroad through center of town that is impacting the development of a linear trail, designated to be a "safe route to school" and is surrounded by poor neighborhoods; and (5) **Boswell Old 41 Corridor** (Boswell) is comprised of 12 sites including an abandoned fertilizer plant, junk yards and gas stations, adjacent to poor neighborhoods.

(ii) Demographic data for the Coalition area and targeted communities are presented below:



Sources: 2010 U.S. Census www.census.gov; Bureau of Labor Statistics (August 2014) www.bls.gov; 2010 American Community Survey (ACS) factfinder.census.gov

Canal District	834	27.2%	18.8%	21.6%	14.1%	8.3%	10.4%	23.8%	7.1%	\$33,545	\$13,452
W. Knox	1,029	32.6%	18.6%	25.8%	9.9%	4.8%	2.9%	35.1%	15.1%	\$24,153	\$11,820
Kentland	1,748	27.8%	10.3%	21.4%	9.2%	5.8%	8.0%	18.8%	9.3%	\$43,580	\$21,911
Boswell	778	29.4%	16.2%	24.0%	12.9%	12.1%	15.0%	15.8%	7.4%	\$37,857	\$17,240
Winamac Rail	2,490	26.9%	16.3%	23.6%	10.7%	2.8%	2.3%	20.0%	6.2%	\$33,553	\$19,124
KIRPC area	146,647	27.2%	15.8%	21.2%	7.3%	4.3%	4.5%	17.9%	6.7%	\$37,282	\$18,368
Indiana	6,483,802	27.9%	13.0%	23.5%	5.8%	15.7%	6.0%	14.0%	6.8%	\$48,375	\$24,558
National	308,745,538	27.0%	13.0%	23.9%	6.1%	26.7%	16.3%	11.8%	6.4%	\$51,371	\$28,051

(iii) The Coalition identified more than 690 potential brownfields (gasoline/service stations, bulk petroleum and fertilizer plants, machine shops, metal scrap yards, and manufacturing plants) of known or suspected environmental contamination (hazardous substances/petroleum products). The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) identified more than 250 sites of known impact in the Coalition area. These known and potential brownfields are almost exclusively located in low-income neighborhoods and adjacent to one of the four river ecosystems, representing direct threats to drinking water sources and thwarting the ability of the communities to attract new investment into the region. Residents are being exposed to brownfields contaminants via direct contact, ingestion, and inhalation pathways due to airborne particulates and vapor intrusion. The overriding health and welfare concern is the concentration of brownfields in low-income areas and the brownfields' impacts to the sensitive populations and ecosystems. In addition, the rural makeup of the counties depends on reliable, safe groundwater for drinking water sources, which are threatened by contaminants migrating from brownfields. The Coalition targeted five communities to begin to address these concerns and the table below lists health effects to impacted sensitive populations from contaminants at priority sites.

Canal District - Delphi (former paper mill, Revington-Peters, Globe Valve); paper, furniture, steel plant 98 acres	Asbestos, metals volatile organic compounds (VOCs) polycyclic hydrocarbons (PAHs), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), dioxins	Headaches; poor coordination; respiratory problems; stomach brain, liver, kidney, nerve, lung damage and cancers; blood vessel damage
Sensitive receptors: Poor residents with seniors exceeding national rate by 44.6%, Canal District poverty rates 57.6% higher than U.S. rate with percentage of minorities 193% and Hispanics 231% higher than KIRPC average; unemployment rate nearly double (1.95x) of national rate; visitors to Wabash & Erie Canal Interpretive Center-trail system-campground-park, Carroll County Historical Museum all which adjoin the sites; sites adjoin historic canal which discharges to Wabash River and distract from further investment around the historically important interpretive center; sites are abandoned, vacant and unsecure attractive to vagrants and children.		
Kentland (Bonnell Aluminum) aluminum manufacturing 38 acres	VOCs, metals, organic solvents, PAHs, asbestos, PCBs	cancers, skin irritation; respiratory problems, blood vessel damage, birth defects, headaches; liver, stomach, lung, liver kidney, nerve damage/cancers
Sensitive receptors: Poor residents with those living below the 50% poverty rate 43% higher than U.S. rate and 16% more children than national average, stormwater and runoff impacting tributary to Kankakee River located 150 feet from the Bonnell site; vacant unsecured site attractive to children, vagrants and illegal activity.		
West Knox (Rockwell Window/Nor-am Plastics) 23 acres	VOCs, PAHs, and chlorinated solvents, metals, phthalates	Respiratory damage/failure; anemia bone marrow problems; nerve, liver, kidney damage; stomach, liver, bladder cancer, birth defects
Sensitive receptors: Poor adjoining neighborhoods with poverty rates (35.1%) and < 50% below poverty line (15.1%) rates 2.3 times higher than U.S. rate; 58.4% of population children and women of child bearing age; abandoned and unsecure sites within ¼ mile of elementary school; adjoins tributary to Kankakee River.		
Winamac Rail Corridor (former, salvage, gas stations manufacturing, mills) 18 acres	VOCs, chlorinated solvents, PAHs metals, pesticides, herbicides	Respiratory damage; anemia, bone marrow problems; nerve, liver, kidney damage, stomach; bladder, pancreatic liver cancers birth defects
Sensitive receptors: Adjoining poor residential/mobile home parks with higher than average number of seniors and poverty rate of 20.0% (24.5% higher than U.S. rate); exposure threats to children attending the adjoin KIRPC Headstart Preschool and the 1 st Christian Church Daycare/school; Tippecanoe River and park located within 1/8 mile of sites; Corridor is unsecure, rail grade used by children as a route to		



school, vacant/unsecured buildings attractive to children/illegal activity, USDA designated Food Desert area.

Boswell (gas stations, armory, auto repair, former manufacturers) 15 acres

VOCs, chlorinated solvents, PAHs metals, fertilizers, pesticides

Respiratory damage/failure; anemia, bone marrow problems; nerve, liver, kidney stomach; bladder, liver, pancreatic cancers, birth defects

Sensitive receptors: Poor residents with higher percentages of children, seniors and women of childbearing age than U.S. rate, percentage of minorities 2.8 times and percentage of Hispanics 3.3 times higher than the KIRPC rates and per capita income 36.9% and 28.3% less than U.S and Indiana rates, respectively; park visitors (children) to the only town park adjoining to the west; municipal water wells one-tenth of northwest; sites are unsecure and subject to vandalism.

¹ Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), ToxFAQs.

(iv) Other environmental issues the Coalition must contend with include: 390 existing Confined Feeding Operations (CFOs), over 450 petroleum production wells, 20 open dumps, 6 landfills, and 6 tire waste sites, all of which are direct threats to the drinking water sources and surface water quality; 21 active and former railroad systems, a multitude of state highways and interstate highway I-65, the main route between Chicago and Indianapolis, and the KIRPC counties are further impacted by the current, regional steel and manufacturing industries located in Gary, Indiana, which adjoins the region to the northwest, all of which degrade the region's air quality. Additionally, the U.S. EPA lists four of the KIRPC counties as Zone 1 Radon Counties (highest radon impact rating- predicted indoor radon levels greater than 4.0 pCi/L of air) and the remaining four counties as Zone 2 counties (radon levels between 2.0 and 4.0 pCi/L) (www.epa.gov/radon/zonemap). In the towns, the rail and transportation systems were built to service the industrial developments located in congested low-income neighborhoods, so residents of these communities have been disproportionately impacted by air emissions when compared to wealthier citizens who live on the outskirts, upwind of the industrialized areas. The low-income, rural residents are disproportionately impacted by the CFOs, landfills and dumps, and petroleum production wells. As shown in the table in Section 1.a.ii, the targeted communities have high numbers of low-income populations and higher than average numbers of seniors, children, and women of childbearing age, and, 4 of the 5 targeted communities have higher percentages of minority and Hispanics (many ranging from 2 to 4 times greater) than the rest of the Coalition area. These sensitive populations are disproportionately exposed to these cumulative issues and do not have the resources to protect themselves, creating environmental injustices.

b. Impacts on Targeted Community:

The residents in the Coalition's targeted communities are being disproportionately impacted by brownfields and the Coalition's low-income residents disproportionately live near the brownfields in the region. The low-income residents in the target communities have limited funds and abilities to travel, so they attend day care, school and churches in these neighborhoods, and play in parks adjacent to these sites. Their exposures to brownfields contaminants via direct contact, particulate ingestion, inhalation, and vapor intrusion pathways are constant, the definition of environmental injustice. This grant will allow the coalition to assess and identify these risks and provide planning to, educate, protect and mitigate unacceptable exposure to the risks these brownfields represent to the citizens.

According to *State Cancer Profiles, Incidence Rate Report for Indiana by County, 2005-2009*, despite the rural makeup of the Coalition area, cancer rates are elevated and alarming. The table below lists the types of cancer occurrences in each county and the counties' ranks within Indiana:

Benton	bladder(1), colon/rectal(1), prostate(7), All cancers(8), lung(20)	Pulaski	Leukemia(1), Bladder(13), colon/rectal (13),
Warren	3 rd least populous county, case numbers not statistically valid	White	thyroid(5), Lung(11), colon/rectal(15), prostate (16), uterus(20)
Jasper	stomach(1), prostate(1), thyroid(1), all cancers(2), lung (3), kidney(6), uterus(6), colon-rectal(7), non-Hodgkin lymphoma (10), bladder(10),oral(11), leukemia(15)	Carroll	Non-Hodgkin lymphoma (1), pancreatic (2), bladder (5), prostate (8)
Newton	Oral (2)Kidney (17)	Starke	Breast (16), lung (16)

The elevated cancer incidence rates indicate Coalition residents have been impacted by both brownfields and active industrial operations. The potential contaminants listed at brownfields in the targeted communities are known to increase the same cancer rates as identified in the KIRPC region. Asthma prevalence rates are also an immediate concern. Five of the eight Coalition counties were reported with elevated asthma rates. White (4th), Warren (9th), Benton (27th) and Starke (32nd) were each listed in the top one-third Indiana Counties for Age Adjusted Asthma Emergency Room visits. Jasper and Starke counties were listed as



having the 19th and 20th highest rate of Hospital Discharges for Asthma (*The Burden of Asthma in Indiana, 2011*). Also, the report indicates that children, seniors, and adult women are disproportionately affected by asthma and low-income populations are more greatly affected with higher asthma rates than mid-to upper-income populations by a factor of 3. This demonstrates a disproportionate impact from pollutants from industrial operations and brownfields to the Coalition's targeted communities and low-income residents.

Another concern is the impact brownfields are having on pregnancies and children. According to the Indiana State Health Department and U.S. Department of Health & Human Services websites, White, Carroll and Pulaski counties all rank in the upper 25% and Benton and Jasper counties rank in the upper 45% of Indiana counties for all birth defects with Pulaski county ranking 1st and White 12th for pyloric stenosis and Jasper 7th and Starke 17th for hypospadias (phthalates used in plastics manufacturing is a known cause of hypospadias and both have former plastic manufacturing brownfields) Pulaski's infant mortality rate is a staggering 37% higher than the U.S. rate with Newton and White counties rates over 10% higher than the national average. Teratogens including phthalates, arsenic, lead, mercury, PCBs, paints, and organic solvents have been identified as site contaminants at the targeted communities' brownfields. The percentage of children with elevated blood lead levels is also a major concern with Pulaski reporting the 2nd, Warren 7th, White 9th, Benton 10th, Jasper 15th and Carroll 20th highest levels (upper 25 percentile) in the state. Clearly brownfields are contributing to the myriad of health conditions facing the Coalition and the poorest residents have the greatest, disproportional exposure to brownfields, creating an environmental justice issue for the most vulnerable citizens in the targeted communities and micro communities. Please note, all of the Coalition's cities and towns are micro communities, therefore this data is only available at the county level and incidence rates for individual micro communities are likely even higher.

Another health and welfare concern is migration of contaminants from brownfields to the Kankakee, Iroquois, Tippecanoe and Wabash Rivers. Over 400 brownfields are located within a ¼ mile of these surface waters, threatening these sensitive ecosystems. Historically, streams and connected tributaries served as the waste conveyance system for industrial operations and urban runoff, impairing the rivers' ecosystems. These conditions present a threat to the viability of the rivers and watershed ecosystems and present exposure concerns for residents and visitors (via direct contact and ingestion) from the recreational use of the waterways. These riverine ecosystems are also home to twelve species of mussels, eight fish, ten birds, thirty plants and twelve mammals included in Indiana's Endangered, Threatened, and Rare Species program. These and other species require protection from contaminated run-off and groundwater.

c. Financial Need: The Coalition counties have been decimated by the recent economic downturn. Since 2008, multiple factory closings have eliminated thousands of jobs in the micro communities as evidenced by the unemployment rate of the Coalition partners (Knox and Delphi) ranging from 1.7 to 2.4 times higher than the U.S. (Bureau of Labor Statistics-Target Employment Areas). With the loss of higher-paying manufacturing jobs, the economic bases crumbled, decreasing tax revenues and the money available for community investment. The lack of good jobs has trickled down to the supporting businesses resulting in additional downtown businesses closing and causing further economic decay. The Coalition needs funding to assess brownfields that are contributing to the demise of the targeted communities and assist the micro communities that cannot support their own brownfields programs. Redevelopment of these sites will provide impoverished residents with sorely needed employment without requiring long and expensive commutes and increase the Coalition's tax bases, allowing for community investment and providing opportunities for new small business entrepreneurs to flourish.

(i) Economic Conditions: The Coalition's financial need has resulted from the decrease in available revenue with which the municipalities have to operate and provide redevelopment support. Indiana revised its property tax codes to provide property tax cuts at the same time the recent recession caused a reduction in property values, resulting in gross tax revenues being crippled. The Coalition counties tax receipts have decreased by 48.3% since 2008 and average operating budgets were cut by over 11% on average. The Coalition's micro communities have experienced even more dramatic budget reductions, some exceeding 50%. The coalition's rural makeup only compounds the problems as running and maintaining infrastructure to rural areas consumes larger portions of the budget, more so than densely populated regions. The Coalition's micro communities and targeted communities simply cannot afford funds to assess these brownfields and this assessment grant represents their only hope of providing funding to assess brownfields and plan for cleanup and redevelopment to improve both the physical and financial health of their citizens. Without this grant these risks will sadly remain.

(ii) Economic Impacts of Brownfields The Coalition's primary financial concern is the lack of quality employment opportunities, which is disproportionately impacting impoverished residents in the targeted and



micro communities. The lack of local employment opportunities requires nearly 40% of residents to commute over an hour a day, increasing their transportation and child care costs, which also disproportionately impacts the poorest residents. In the last five years alone, poverty rates have increased in the Coalition counties from 34.2% (Warren) to 62.7% (White). Each of the 8 KIRPC counties ranks in the bottom half of the state for average wage per job and growth each county lost population (negative growth) since the 2010 census (*STATS Indiana, Counties in Profile*). Coalition unemployment is currently 18% higher than the state of Indiana and the micro communities have disproportionately suffered, with the average unemployment rate of the targeted communities nearly double (1.95x) the Indiana rate. Since 2004, the number of Coalition families living below the poverty level and receiving public assistance has increased an average of 67% and the number of families receiving food stamps has increased a staggering average of 244%. As shown in Section 1.a.ii, the targeted communities' neighborhoods surrounding the priority brownfields have the lowest per capita income rates in the Coalition, significantly lower than Indiana and the U.S. and poverty rates in the targeted and micro communities range from 1.5 to 2.3 times the national poverty rates. The population living under the 50% poverty line is equally disturbing. The Coalition desperately needs to reverse the trends of job losses, increased commuting costs and decreased wages for its residents. The brownfields within the targeted communities have also decimated property values. According to the American Community Survey, the average home values in the targeted communities are up to 39% lower than the Coalition average and 55% lower than the average Indiana home. The Canal District homes are valued 38% lower than the rest of the City of Delphi homes despite the significant waterfront and the trail and park system that weaves through the community, both of which should increase home values. Decreasing property values result in low to negative asset growth, resulting in less investment by residents. In a vicious cycle of environmental injustice, the same brownfields that cost residents access to local, good-paying jobs are decreasing their property values. Unable to move, they are forced to travel farther for lower-wage jobs with increased transportation costs. As the downward spiral continues, the once-thriving local eateries, hardware stores and service are closing and the towns are desperate to attract new businesses. The Coalition has plenty of vacant and underutilized properties, but attracting new businesses to relocate to the area is difficult without thriving downtowns to which people are willing to relocate, a town with a local grocer, restaurant, or service station. These are the cyclical effects that the Coalition's brownfields have created. With grant funds, the Coalition will have the ability to educate and mitigate the risks to the citizens and take the first steps in redeveloping these sites to reverse the cycle and make these micro communities viable again. Each of the targeted communities were chosen with this goal in mind. Each has developable sites that pose significant risks with redevelopment potential to serve as the lynchpin in reinvestment. Despite the dire economic conditions, the Coalition made brownfield redevelopment a top priority and committed matching funds to this grant (Section 2.c). Based on the expected assessment scopes, brownfield assessment and cleanup planning costs in targeted communities are estimated to be at least \$800,000. Without an Assessment Grant, the Coalition will not be able to support the assessment of these brownfields and begin the process of redeveloping these sites which are impacting the economic viability of the Coalition's micro communities.

2. Project Description and Feasibility of Success

a. Project Description

(i) The Coalition made redevelopment of brownfields a top priority. During development of the KIRPC's comprehensive plan, brownfield redevelopment was recognized by the citizens as one of the primary goals to spur new community investment in the struggling cities and towns. To address the citizens' objectives, the Coalition established the following **Assessment Grant Goals** as metrics to select sites for funding: 1. revitalize blighted neighborhoods without displacing residents and protect citizens from brownfields exposures; 2. improve the deplorable poverty rates in targeted communities by redeveloping brownfields to create local high-paying jobs, within walking distance to the poor neighborhoods and increase property values; 3. protect the Kankakee, Iroquois, Wabash and Tippecanoe rivers' ecosystems from brownfields impacts via uncontrolled runoff and groundwater migration, and 4. support redevelopment that enhances and expands greenspace and linear parks consistent Coalition members' Comprehensive land use plans. The **Assessment Grant Goals** coincide with the EPA's guiding Livability Principles.

The brownfields program approach is directed by the **Assessment Grant Goals**. The grant project will start with addressing a minimum of five sites in the Coalition, including at least one in each targeted community. The targeted communities were chosen based on community needs and stakeholder knowledge that redevelopment of brownfields will act as catalysts, providing the highest return on grant funds and fulfilling citizens' desires.



Grant-funded activities for the **Canal District** targeted community include assessment of the former Peters-Revington (PR), Globe Valve, and a former paper mill. These three sites adjoin the nationally-acclaimed Wabash and Erie Canal Interpretive Center which includes the canal, Canal Park, Pioneer Village and campgrounds. The Globe Valve site, closed ten years ago, resulted in the loss of over 200 jobs and, in 2013, the closure of Peters-Revington (historically providing over 300 jobs), dealt the final blow to Delphi, a community of less than 3,000. Extensive Phase II Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs) are planned to evaluate the risks to the canal (and Wabash River), residents (vapor intrusion) and visitors to the Interpretive Center/Park (direct contact). The Carroll County Wabash & Erie Canal association desires to expand both their campgrounds and redevelop a portion of the PR site into a museum to increase tourism. The remaining area will be redeveloped with a high-tech industrial park, bringing new jobs to Delphi.

The **Kentland** target community contains the former Bonnell Aluminum site, a 38-acre site with a 200,000 square foot manufacturing building. When the aluminum extrusion plant closed in November 2012, 146 high-paying jobs were lost, representing over 15% of the workforce in a town of less than 2,000. The Coalition desperately needs to attract a new employer to replace the lost jobs and resurrect Kentland. The Bonnell brownfield represents threats of contaminant vapor intrusion into nearby residential buildings and direct contact threats, as well as a direct threat to the Kankakee River ecosystem. The Coalition needs the Assessment Grant to evaluate health risks to residents and future workers, and prepare the site for reuse. It is anticipated that extensive Phase II ESA work will be required to assess the nature and extent of contamination and develop remedial planning, including implementation of engineering controls and hazardous materials abatement to permit safe reuse.

The target community of **West Knox** contains multiple brownfields in addition to two priority sites, the former Rockwell Window and Nor-Am Plastics plants. The 17-acre Rockwell site contains a 200,000 square foot building, and the 6.5-acre former Nor-Am site contains a 106,000 square foot building. The vacant sites are located in close proximity to neighborhoods, a park and elementary school and adjoin a tributary to the Kankakee River. In addition to posing direct threats to residents and the Kankakee River, these sites have been identified as a priority redevelopment sites to attract new employers to the City of Knox and provide local jobs to the poor residents. An extensive Phase II ESA is anticipated to facilitate cleanup planning for hazardous materials removal (asbestos, chemicals, etc.), contaminated soil, ground-water treatment, and exposure controls, to protect residents and new workers, and limit impact to the river.

The **Winamac Rail Corridor** in the Town of Winamac runs from the south corporate limits to the north corporate limits. The property is approximately 100 feet wide by 7,800 feet long and is owned by the Town of Winamac. There are no buildings on-site, but it adjoins numerous abandoned brownfields and two daycare/preschools and playgrounds. The town plans to extend the Panhandle Pathway in the corridor through town and redevelop the adjoining vacant buildings with new commercial, professional and residential use that will provide new job opportunities to the impoverished residents of this targeted community. Portions of the site are also being planned for community vegetable gardens and a farmers market. Due to the unique nature of this property, the citizens and town leaders believe redevelopment could be a lynch pin to transform the downtown and spur other brownfield redevelopment projects. Impacts from past railroad operations and abandoned adjoining industrial sites represent a threat to the Tippecanoe River, which has been named by the Nature Conservancy as one of the top 10 rivers to preserve in America. By determining the nature and extent of the environmental impact created by the former rail and adjoining industrial operations, the Coalition will be able to assess the imminent health risk to residents using and near the corridor and determine required remediation to allow safe trail and commercial/residential reuse.

The **Boswell Old 41 Corridor** has been identified as a targeted community based on interest in two sites by developers and at least 15 brownfields created by highway realignment. On one site, a new owner wants to open a grocery store. Boswell does not have a grocery store and residents are forced to drive over 15 miles to neighboring towns to buy food. According to the new owner's business plan, the commercial redevelopment would produce ten new jobs. On the second site, a developer is interested in expanding its business. Both sites have had underground storage tanks removed, but no contamination assessments. Potential impacts at these sites present threats to Boswell's water supply wells that are located within 300 feet. The sites will require comprehensive assessment and remedial planning for safe reuse.

(ii) The Coalition is prepared to begin the assessment grant project immediately upon award. Founded in 1973, KIRPC is funded by the eight Coalition counties and provides regional assistance on a daily basis managing grants, assisting in economic development initiatives and educational programs. The cooperation needed to manage this grant has existed since 1973. The Coalition has agreed upon the framework for the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). After being awarded the Assessment Grant, the Coalition will prepare a



Work Plan with community support (Section 3.) for U.S. EPA approval and issue a consultant request for qualifications, with a deadline of retaining a consultant within eight weeks. The Coalition and a qualified environmental consultant (the project team) will lead the brownfields program (Section 5.a) which will begin by preparing an overall 36-month project budget to ensure the project remains on schedule. KIRPC will act as lead organization on the project and provide staff for day-to-day grant operations including: updating/maintaining the brownfields inventory; distributing project information to the community; assessment site selection; and progress tracking. KIRPC will be responsible for procuring contractual services and submitting the required reports to the U.S. EPA. The Coalition members and micro communities will work closely within the existing partnership. KIRPC has an established working relationship with each of Coalition's communities and will work with property owners and the municipalities to secure site access for assessment.

The project team will focus on expanding the Coalition's brownfield inventory. Because of legal issues associated with publicly listing private properties, the inventory will focus on developable sites and secure permission to add these sites to the inventory. The project team and community organizations (Section 3.) will be involved in the inventory, which will continue throughout the grant period. After deemed eligible by the U.S. EPA and community notification, sites will be assessed through performance of a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA), per ASTM 1527-13 and/or a Phase II ESA. Engineering controls and specialized procedures will be instituted during ESAs to ensure that the community is protected from contaminants during assessment work (Section 4.a). Upon receipt of assessment results, the environmental consultant will work with the Coalition and community partners to devise liability management, cleanup, and site use strategies to support redevelopment and improve the environment and health of residents. Additional investigations may be needed to further define the extent of contamination and design environmental response actions for cleanup and safe site reuse. Contaminated sites may be entered into the Indiana Brownfields Program (IBP), Voluntary Remediation Program (VRP), or Underground Storage Tank (UST) Program. The results of assessments will be disseminated to citizens via public meetings and notification of community organizations (Section 3.). If health threats are identified, IDEM and the local County Health Department will be notified (Section 3.b). If subsequent environmental response activities are needed, the Coalition will seek additional funding from local, state, and/or U.S. EPA sources (Section 2.c). The project team will meet monthly to ensure projects are progressing and benchmarks are being met to ensure the grant project is completed within the three-year time limit.

(iii) Redevelopment plans approved for funding will be required to meet at least one of the **Assessment Grant Goals** and will be approved by the KIRPC project team which will include representatives from each of the eight counties. Site access will be obtained by: sales agreement (transactions); County or lender for foreclosures (depending on the tax or loan); through local nuisance abatement authority; or from IDEM for sites that present an imminent threat to public health. As previously agreed upon by the Coalition counties, brownfields in the targeted communities will be given top priority for funding. Second priority will be given to other sites that are believed to be impacting residents and sites with an interested, viable developer. The assessment grant will also provide support for businesses and micro communities to spur redevelopment of smaller sites throughout the Coalition area. By assessing these key sites, the Coalition hopes to improve the vitality of existing neighborhoods, create jobs, increase greenspace and improve recreational opportunities. With this approach, the Coalition will support revitalization of hardest-hit areas, mitigate immediate health and environmental threats, provide support to enhance economic development, and create jobs. These assessments will support redevelopments in areas with existing infrastructure, create local jobs and amenities, and create and protect greenspace responsibly. When redeveloped, these sites will increase commercial/manufacturing growth in poor neighborhoods and reduce the need for residents to commute long distances to find employment. Assessment data will determine the extent of brownfields contamination; evaluate exposure pathways and develop mitigation/remediation strategies to protect health and the environment; and support redevelopment planning and marketing of brownfields. This approach may be revised if goals for outputs/outcomes (Section 2.b) are not being met or community concerns arise.

b. Task Description and Budget

Task 1 Programmatic Costs: Programmatic costs are \$6,050. The Coalition is providing all personnel costs except for \$3,650 (hazardous substances) for updating and maintaining brownfields information in the Assessment, Cleanup, and Redevelopment Exchange System (ACRES) system (\$50/hour for 73 hours). Once a site has been determined to be eligible, it will be entered into ACRES and its profile will be updated after completion of Phase I and II ESAs, remediation, and/or redevelopment. The petroleum grant includes attending one U.S. EPA Brownfields Conference and an additional brownfield conference (\$1,200/ trip).



Task 2 Community Outreach: Community outreach costs are \$10,600. Included is \$1,000 (\$500 each grant) for printing, and mailing project information and documents to citizens and community stakeholders and contractual costs of \$9,600 for conducting community outreach and stakeholder meetings (\$5,000 for hazardous substances grant and \$4,600 for petroleum grant). *Output=minimum of 4 kickoff meetings, 30 monthly meetings, 3 project closeout meetings.*

Task 3 Site Inventory and Selection: The Coalition has an initial inventory and included \$4,850 in the budget for inventory maintenance costs, which includes travel costs of \$650 for identifying new sites and showing sites to interested parties (\$250 for hazardous substances grant and \$400 for petroleum grant). The environmental consultant will assist in compiling the inventory list throughout the project at a cost of \$4,200 (\$2,100 each grant). *Output=100 new brownfields identified.*

Task 4 Site Assessment: Sites will be evaluated through performance of Phase I and/or II ESAs in accordance with All Appropriate Inquiry (ASTM Standard E1527-13) and other ASTM standards. The Coalition will focus grant funds on performing assessments, especially Phase II ESAs, to determine the nature and extent of the contamination at priority sites where the history is known. For these sites, a Phase I ESA may not be required. For priority sites with an imminent property transaction, a Phase I ESA will be completed regardless of historical knowledge. The Coalition also anticipates supporting due diligence at sites where business interest occurs during the project. Based on past experience, anticipated Phase I ESA costs will range from \$5,000 to \$8,000 and Phase II ESA costs will range from \$15,000 to \$60,000. The hazardous substances grant budget includes contractual costs of \$366,000 based on six Phase I ESAs at \$7,000 each (\$42,000 total), and eight Phase II ESAs at \$40,500 each (\$324,000 total). The petroleum grant budget includes contractual costs of \$172,000, based on five Phase I ESAs at \$5,000 each (\$25,000 total) and seven Phase II ESAs at \$21,000 each (\$147,000 total). These are averaged costs used for budgeting. Actual costs may vary. *Output=11 Phase I ESAs and 15 Phase II ESAs completed.*

Task 5 Cleanup Planning: The Coalition will conduct cleanup planning as required by the IBP, VRP, or UST programs for brownfields where redevelopment is imminent. This may include preparing Remediation Work Plans (RWP), assessing brownfields cleanup/redevelopment alternatives, or evaluating institutional and engineering controls. Contractual costs for this task are estimated at \$22,500 (hazardous substances) and \$18,000 (petroleum), based on completing two hazardous substances RWPs at \$11,250 each and two petroleum RWPs at \$9,000 each. *Output=4 RWPs and cleanup plans completed.*

(programmatic costs only)	Task 1	Task 2	Task 3	Task 4	Task 5	Total Budget
Personnel	Programmatic	Community Outreach	Site Inventory	Site Assessment	Cleanup Planning	
Travel	\$2,400		\$400			\$2,800
Supplies		\$500				\$500
Contractual		\$4,600	\$2,100	\$172,000	\$18,000	\$196,700
Total Budget	\$2,400	\$5,100	\$2,500	\$172,000	\$18,000	\$200,000
Personnel	\$3,650					\$3,650
Travel			\$250			\$250
Supplies		\$500				\$500
Contractual		\$5,000	\$2,100	\$366,000	\$22,500	\$395,600
Total Budget	\$3,650	\$5,500	\$2,350	\$366,000	\$22,500	\$400,000

To evaluate progress the Coalition will document the outputs listed above. The Coalition will also measure the following outcomes: acres of land assessed, remediated and redeveloped, acres of greenspace and parks preserved or created; jobs created or retained; tax revenue generated; redevelopment investment value; and other funding leveraged. The Coalition will evaluate the project progress quarterly to assure the funds are being expended as anticipated and if the completed assessments are catalyzing remediation and redevelopment investment, creating jobs and mitigating exposure risks. The Coalition will adjust the site funding approach if the project is not generating the expected outcomes.

c. Ability to Leverage: Assessment Grants are vital for catalyzing brownfields redevelopment projects because they cover site assessment costs needed to support liability management, project design, and



remediation planning. This alone is rarely sufficient to ensure a successful redevelopment. The Coalition understands this grant will not be a complete cure to the conditions brownfields have created and additional sources of funding to ensure a successful program will be required. The Coalition, therefore, is pledging resources to the project and will secure additional funds to supplement this grant. With the grant and supplemental leveraged funds, the Coalition will be able to immediately tackle these projects and facilitate redevelopment.

KIRPC ¹	KIRPC meeting rooms	\$6,000 (\$2000/year)	100% will provide in-kind resources
KIRPC ¹	Press releases, meetings, website, social media outreach, site selection, oversee financial grant transactions, support programmatic activities	\$50 per hour/700 hours = \$35,000	100%
Indiana Dept. of Transportation (IndOT) (Winamac)	Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Grant for comprehensive Rail Corridor trail plan	\$75,000	100% project complete
IndOT (Winamac)	SRTS grant to build Rail Corridor trail	\$250,000	Grant dependent
KIRPC Counties ¹	Each county: meeting space (\$600), economic development staff 120 hours @ \$50/hr., site clearing \$3000	\$76,800 (\$9600 per county)	100%
Environmental Consultant	Documentation including: monthly status reports, QAPP and HASPs, project administrative meetings	\$10,000 (100 hrs. at \$100/hr.)	100% Consultant required to provide in-kind
Environmental Consultant	Develop hazardous substance educational program	\$7,500 (75 hrs. @ \$100/hr.)	100% Consultant to provide in-kind
Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) Stellar Community Grant (Delphi only)	Comprehensive grant: historic preservation, affordable housing construction, sustainable projects –solar house, expand Canal District trail	\$10,000,000	100% grant awarded
Tax Increment Finance (KIRPC Counties TIF districts)	Property tax revenue generated from redevelopments for site acquisition, infrastructure and site improvements	Depends on development value	100% if redevelopment is in TIF district
Property tax abatement	Up to 10 yr. abatement property improvement/new equipment	Development value dependent	100% if eligible

¹ Commitment letters are included in Attachment A and C.

The following existing state and federal leveraging resources are also available by application:

US EPA			
Brownfield Cleanup & RLF Grants	\$200,000-\$1,000,000	Outreach and Cleanup of hazardous substance/petroleum contamination	Community Involvement and Cleanup of Brownfields Sites
Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB)	Technical Assistance	Kansas State University provides assistance/support to brownfield grant communities (at no cost)	Community outreach/training/visioning for site reuse, Greener Cleanup Strategies for cleanup plans
Indiana Finance Authority (IFA)			
Revolving Loan Fund	\$500,000	Cleanup activities for hazardous substance/petroleum contamination	Remediation of Brownfield Sites
SRF-Clean Water Funds	Section 319	Integrating nonpoint source project into water/wastewater projects	Eligible brownfields remediation and interest rate for SRF is reduced by 5%
Tax Waiver – Brownfields	Waiver back taxes	Petition Dept. of Local Government Finance for delinquent tax waiver	Remove financial barrier of back taxes to facilitate brownfield redevelopment
Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) -Community Development Block Grant funding			



Main Street Revitalization	\$800,000	Long-term community development low income/blighted areas	Redevelop brownfields located in Main Street areas
Planning Grant	\$1,000,000 (annual)	Funds infrastructure, downtown revitalization and community facilities	Downtown revitalization is a major goal of our brownfields initiative
Public Facilities Grant	\$2,000,000	Funds Emergency Services projects, Historic Preservation, Public Facilities	Funding of Brownfields redevelopment of public facilities
Comprehensive Site Redevelopment	\$750,000	OCRA partnership with Indiana Brownfields Program- funds cleanup	Cleanup/demolition of brownfield sites
Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC)			
Shovel Ready Program	Services	Reduces potential development costs, enhance marketability	Marketing brownfields sites for redevelopment/removing red tape
Industrial Recovery Tax Credit	Up to 25% tax credit	Incentive for investment in facilities requiring rehabilitation	Incentivize rehabilitation of buildings over 15 yrs. old and over 50,000 square feet

Other leveraging opportunities applicable to brownfield redevelopment can come from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources with up to \$150,000 for **acquisition or development of trails**, \$200,000 Land & Water Conservation Fund for **park creation**, and \$500,000 Historic Preservation and Archaeology for **rehabilitation of historic structures**.

3. Community Engagement and Partnerships

a.i Community Involvement Plan: The Coalition understands the importance of community involvement in planning. During formation of the KIRPC Comprehensive Plan, feedback from communities guided development of goals, which included addressing priority brownfields. The Coalition identified residents, owners, local businesses, lenders, developers and concerned citizens as stakeholders for the grant project, who will be involved with assisting the Coalition with assessment site selection, reuse planning and cleanup decisions. After notice of an Assessment Grant award, the Coalition will announce the award and the availability of the draft Work Plan to the community through a press release to each of the eight county newspapers and Chambers of Commerce newsletters, and post notices on the all of the Coalition's counties' websites. The Coalition will announce the award on local area radio stations (WRIN 1560 AM, WLQI 97.7 FM, WMRS 107.7 FM) to reach less literate residents and send notices to local business leaders. The Coalition will establish a Facebook and LinkedIn group to allow community interaction during the project and include instructions on reaching these forums in all press releases and published information. Four targeted communities have concentrated Hispanic populations, so if requested the Coalition will provide Spanish translation through an existing relationship with Purdue University. Hard copies of the draft Work Plan will be located at KIRPC, Coalition communities' offices and local public libraries for access by those without computer access. The public will be able to provide comments verbally, by electronic postings/email, or in writing letters and discussed at public meetings held in each of the targeted communities and Coalition county. The draft Work Plan will be modified in response to citizen comments. To reach all residents, meeting notices will be included with tax and water bills. Following Work Plan approval, the Coalition will hold kick-off meetings in the targeted communities and Coalition counties to acquaint citizens with the project; reaffirming the **Assessment Grant Goals**. Due to the risks associated with the brownfields and in light of the serious health issues from other environmental factors (cancers, birth defects, lead levels, radon, etc.) identified in this application, the Coalition will also develop a risk-awareness educational program as part of the kick-off meetings. The educational program will be developed in-kind with local health department participation to provide information and supporting resources on both the risks associated with brownfields and other serious health risks (asbestos, lead/cadmium-based paint, radon) to begin to improve the health of the poorer citizens most impacted and unaware of these risks. To ensure the targeted communities are engaged, the project team will canvas target neighborhoods with the meeting announcements and risk awareness educational materials. Kick-off meetings will be broadcast via webinar for citizens who cannot attend. The public will be asked to identify brownfields they feel are impacting health and welfare, which will be added to the inventory. Meeting materials/minutes will be posted on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Coalition members' websites with hard copies available at locations described above. The Coalition will present the reasoning for site selection at public meetings and solicit feedback. The Coalition will use community comments, project viability, and **Assessment Grant Goals** compatibility as metrics to access grant funds.



ii. Communicating Progress: After completing an assessment, information will flow outward to the community, notifying local stakeholders of results, and explaining health and environmental impacts. Assessment results will be posted on the Coalition members' websites, Facebook, and LinkedIn with hard copies available as previously described. If health threats are identified, written notices will be sent to impacted citizens and the local Health Department will be contacted. When cleanup and/or redevelopment planning is initiated, explanations of plans and solicitation of comments on those plans, will be implemented. The project team will hold open public monthly meetings in the micro-communities where assessments are being conducted for stakeholders to solicit feedback on the assessment grant findings and ways to promote and improve project outcomes. Monthly updates will be provided at public county/town meetings and the project team will attend community organization meetings to discuss projects results. At project close, the Coalition will hold a final public meeting to discuss the project outcomes. The presentation materials and minutes will be archived and placed in Coalition member's websites and offices, Facebook and LinkedIn with hard copies in local libraries.

b. Partnership with Government Agencies:

(i) The Coalition will partner with local and state environmental/health agencies to ensure that the project is successful. The KIRPC County Health Departments have been instrumental in citizen education related to methamphetamine labs, lead poisoning, and groundwater protection. The environmental consultant will work with the health departments to develop the educational risk-awareness program. The health departments can provide blood lead testing and groundwater testing and will use their experience to help identify/verify toxicological health risks posed by contamination; perform risk evaluations; conduct notification/education programs; and coordinate health testing if warranted. There is no local environmental oversight agency so the Coalition will establish partnerships with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) to ensure assessment, cleanup, and brownfield redevelopment is conducted in compliance with the rules/guidance promulgated by the IDEM VRP (Indiana VCP) and IDEM UST program, as applicable. Partnering with IDEM or Indiana Brownfields Program (IBP) staff will be important for technical support, resolution of regulatory issues, and interpretation of rules and guidance documents. For petroleum-impacted sites, IDEM will provide site eligibility determination prior to assessment. IDEM will review/approve Remediation Work Plans and Closure Reports on sites where response actions are completed. If contamination discovered through assessments potentially impacts the health of local populations, IDEM and the local county health department will be notified and brought in as project partners. The criteria established by IDEM under the Remediation Closure Guide will be used to identify and address on-site health and environmental threats.

(ii) The Coalition will partner with the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) to assist with site marketing and provide expertise in brownfield repurposing to create and retain jobs. The Coalition will consult with the IFA Brownfields Sustainability Initiative to provide guidance into successful sustainable brownfield projects and Indiana Housing Authority for low-income housing guidance. OCRA will be a significant partner in redevelopment and equitable development outcomes, providing resources in community and economic development for infrastructure construction, downtown revitalization, community facility projects and clearance and redevelopment funding. As sites are assessed, OCRA will assist with neighborhood planning and clearance of blight in our targeted communities.

c. Partnership with Community Organizations:

(i) Community Organization Description and Role: The following community-based organizations will be directly involved in the Assessment Grant project. The Coalition already works with these organizations and will continue those partnerships throughout the project.

University Cooperative Extension Service (PUCES): PUCES works to develop youth and strengthen agriculture, families and the KIRPC communities. PUCES will be a partner in communicating grant project information to the communities and donating use of its 75-seat facility for public meetings.

Benton Community School Corporation (BCSC): BCSC will be incorporating a classroom exercise about brownfields and economic development into the High School's curriculum. After the exercise is complete, the project team will offer the exercise to the other Coalition schools. The Coalition will also utilize the schools as another conduit to allow information regarding the grant project to flow outward and to promote the educational risk-awareness program. The Coalition will also require the environmental consultant lecture high school science classes on environmental consulting.

Starke County Environmental Management District (SCEMD): The SCEMD is an Indiana Solid Waste District for proper solid waste management and conducts environmental educational seminars. SCEMD works the three school corporations in Starke County to educate students on environmental education and



awareness. The SCEMD will assist the Coalition with developing the risk awareness and other educational programs for the Coalition counties, provide an outlet for information, and will be an integral resource partner on ecosystem protection, recycling, and building deconstruction. SCEMD will also be incorporating brownfield education, including information collected on assessed brownfields into its educational seminars.

Nature Conservancy Wabash Rivers Initiative (NCWR): is a branch of the non-profit world-wide environmental conservancy group committed to preservation of the Wabash River watershed which includes the Coalition's major rivers. NCWR works with multiple organizations and agencies to restore flood plains, reduce pollutants, and coordinate research. With four river systems, the NCWR's expertise will be critical to the Coalition to assist ecosystem protection from brownfields impacts. The NCWR has an extensive network of volunteers to assist with community outreach through newsletters and mailing lists.

Carroll County Wabash & Erie Canal (CCWEC): is a non-profit organization that has over 40 years' experience in canal and historic structure restoration and planning and constructing a 10-mile community trail system (Delphi). CCWEC will be a valuable resource in historic preservation and community-driven park creation. CCWEC has also pledged to assist the Coalition with the **Winamac Rail Corridor** trail development and community outreach through their existing network.

(ii) Letters of Commitment: Letters of Commitment from the above referenced community organizations are included in Attachment C.

4. Project Benefits: The **Assessment Grant Goals** support growth that enhances the quality of life, creates economic vitality, preserves existing neighborhoods and eliminates environmental injustice. With an Assessment Grant, the Coalition will incentivize brownfield redevelopment in the targeted communities and support micro communities unable to, implement, and manage their own brownfields programs.

a. Health and/or Welfare and Environment:

(i) **Health and/or Welfare Benefits:** Brownfield redevelopment will reduce contamination and limit inhalation, ingestion, and dermal exposures, protecting the health and welfare of residents. By developing the risk-awareness educational program, promoted through the grant public outreach efforts, residents affected by brownfields will be educated to the risks to reduce potential exposures risks from brownfields and other environmental conditions. The health and welfare benefits associated with the priority sites are summarized below. Similar benefits are expected from redevelopment of other brownfields.

Canal District	Hazardous building materials/chemicals will be identified and removed with a portion of building renovated for museum, park and city trail expansion, and remainder of the sites utilized for new mixed use commercial and hi-tech manufacturing. Petroleum, chlorinated solvent and metal impacted soil and groundwater will be identified and remediated to limit vapor intrusion and direct contact residents/visitors. Contaminated stormwater/groundwater will be eliminated, protecting the canal and Wabash river and recreational users.
West Knox	The extent of contaminated soil and groundwater (potential of birth-defect causing phthalates) will be identified for cleanup to address direct contact/vapor intrusion concerns for low-income residents. If needed, an exposure barrier will be constructed to allow safe reuse of the site as previously described and to eliminate contaminated stormwater and groundwater, protecting the Kankakee River. Waste/junk materials and USTs will be removed and recycled.
Winamac Rail	The extent of metals, VOCs, PAHs, and solvent contamination of soils and groundwater will be determined, and exposure risks to both trail park visitors and adjoining neighborhoods will be assessed from both the former railroad operations and adjoining industrial properties. If needed, soil and groundwater cleanup planning will begin, including the installation of barrier systems to provide safe reuse as a linear park with mixed commercial/residential reuse.
Boswell	Hazardous building materials will be identified for abatement as necessary. Exposure risks, including direct contact and vapor intrusion to adjoining residents and the property will be evaluated and mitigated. The groundwater threats to the Town's municipal water supply wells will be evaluated. The extent of contamination will be defined, and if necessary, barrier systems and soil/groundwater cleanup planning will begin for commercial reuse.
Kentland	Hazardous building materials will be identified for abatement or management in-place and waste chemicals removed. USTs will be identified and assessed. VOC, PAH and metal impacted soil/groundwater will be identified for possible remediation to limit vapor intrusion concerns to poor adjoining residents and eliminate contaminated stormwater/groundwater, protecting the Kankakee River, preparing the site for immediate industrial reuse.

Redevelopment of these brownfields epitomizes the equitable development principles of utilizing new investment in economically disadvantaged neighborhoods to directly benefit residents. Because this work



will be completed on existing industrial sites, residents will reap the benefits without being displaced. These outcomes coincide with the Livability Principles¹ of increasing economic competitiveness, leveraging federal investment, valuing and supporting community and neighborhoods.

Assessment Grant operating procedures will ensure that the citizens are protected from contaminants during assessment work. A Health and Safety Plan (HASP) will be completed for each site where sampling will occur, and site access will be controlled during the assessment. When subsurface or building material samples are collected, the release of particulates/vapors will be controlled through use of engineering controls and specialized work practices. Decontamination/purge water will be containerized and appropriately disposed. The Coalition will use the assessment data to determine how to protect the community prior to, during and after redevelopment activities.

(ii) Environmental Benefits: The cleanup of brownfields along the four river systems, including on-site storm water management, will limit uncontrolled, nonpoint pollution sources and illicit discharges into the river watersheds. This will reduce contaminants into the rivers, improve aquatic life, and allow for fishing and recreation activities so the rivers can become safe, accessible, focal points for the communities, a major part of the Coalition's vision for the future.

b. Environmental Benefits from Infrastructure Reuse/Sustainable Reuse:

(i) Sustainable development principles including focusing development in existing cities, matching land uses to existing infrastructure, and protecting natural resources and greenspace are woven into the **Assessment Grant Goals**. As one of the largest renewable wind energy regions in the country, the Coalition will actively market brownfields to renewable energy companies, with the goal to make the region a leader in renewable energy development/manufacturing. Brownfields in the Coalition are developed with former manufacturing buildings in urban areas served by existing infrastructure and reusing these sites epitomizes sustainable redevelopment. The Coalition will only use grant funds on projects where necessary infrastructure exists or reasonably upgraded. By incentivizing brownfield redevelopment in this fashion, the Coalition will direct development to areas with existing infrastructure, limiting costs of utility extensions, reducing construction material use and construction air emissions. The Coalition will require the use of "green" site investigation (e.g., in-situ data loggers, direct-push drilling, and solar-powered equipment and charging systems,) and remediation techniques (e.g., idling reduction plans for equipment, diesel vehicle retrofit technologies) during site cleanup and redevelopment. The Coalition will encourage innovative stormwater management (rain gardens, bioswales, etc.), and other sustainable designs, such as demolition and construction materials recycling, and use of low-volatility building materials into brownfields redevelopments. The Coalition is committed to implementing sustainability policies. When existing buildings are removed, the Coalition will encourage deconstruction, rather than demolition, and will utilize Habitat for Humanity ReStores as one method to help ensure building components are recycled. The Coalition will encourage the installation of energy efficient HVAC and lighting systems, resulting in reduced resource use and operating costs, and encourage redevelopments to pursue Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification. These sustainable approaches will help reuse existing resources, reduce fossil fuel, energy use, emissions and waste generation during redevelopment.

(ii). Each of the planned redevelopment projects in the targeted communities meet at least two of the U.S. EPA's Livability Principles: sustainable/equitable cleanup and reuse approaches; and sustainable and equitable development. The Coalition has experience incorporating sustainable development with brownfields (for example the Canal Interpretive Center) and Delphi's stellar community experience allows them to lead the Coalition in establishing sustainable policies for micro communities.

c. Economic or Non-economic Benefits:

(i) Brownfield redevelopment will create jobs, increase tax bases, and preserve/enhance greenspace, which meet the Coalition's **Assessment Grant Goals**. The Coalition believes increased manufacturing, retail, and recreational options spurred by brownfields redevelopment will improve living conditions, attract new development, restore vibrancy to commercial districts and prevent generation of new brownfields. Expanded commercial districts will improve the tax bases and diversify the work forces, rendering them less vulnerable to economic swings. These outcomes coincide with the guiding Livability Principles of valuing/supporting community neighborhoods and increasing economic competitiveness. In addition to increasing the tax bases, redevelopment in the targeted communities will have the following economic benefits:

¹ Principles adopted by the partnership between the U.S. EPA, United States Department of Transportation, and United States Department of Housing and Urban Development to promote smart growth.



Canal District: The redevelopment of the three primary brownfields will provide an estimated 450 new local jobs to Delphi by attracting new manufacturing and commercial enterprises. The reuse of these sites will also increase tourism to the area by expanding the Canal Interpretive Center, adding more campsites, a museum and expansion to the current trail system and remove the adjoining eyesores to this cherished piece of history. Private investment is estimated to be approximately \$30 million. Portions of the sites could be used as a new technology/business incubator for renewable energy firms. Anticipated cleanup costs are estimated at \$1,000,000 and require approximately \$200,000 of assessment grant funds. The total grant leverage (investment and cleanup costs compared to assessment funds) will be 105:1.

West Knox: The redevelopment of the two priority brownfields will provide an estimated 300 new local jobs to Knox by attracting new manufacturing and commercial enterprises. The reuse of these sites will produce a private investment estimated to be approximately \$4 million. Portions of the sites could be used as a new technology/business incubator for renewable energy firms. Anticipated cleanup costs are \$300,000 and require approximately \$90,000 of assessment grant funds. The total grant leverage (investment and cleanup costs compared to assessment funds) will be 48:1.

Kentland: Redevelopment requires attracting a new employer to replace the devastating job losses in Kentland. The site will be returned to a manufacturing with an estimated investment of over \$5 million and will create upward of 350 new jobs. Anticipated required assessment grant funding is \$75,000 with an estimated \$250,000 of cleanup costs to allow for safe reuse for a total assessment grant leverage of 70:1.

Winamac Rail: Redevelopment of this site by extending the Panhandle Pathway with trail construction funded by a \$250,000 SRTS grant will result in the ability of Winamac to host cycling tours and running races, with the Town benefiting from the increased tourism. A local business owner plans to open a new bicycle shop along the trail, and redevelopment of the host of brownfields adjoining the former rail corridor with mixed-use commercial, professional offices and residences will result in an investment of \$7 million and provide an estimated 150 new jobs within walking distance to low-income residents and new affordable residences for 40 families. The presence of the linear park will increase property values to the depressed adjoining areas. An additional \$200,000 in increased tourism will result and the project will act as a catalyst for additional investment in the downtown district. A farmers market is planned at the trail head helping to diminish the urban food desert syndrome by providing access to fresh foods. Cleanup costs are estimated to be \$500,000 and require \$150,000 of assessment funds. Total grant leverage 52:1.

Boswell: Initial redevelopment of the two sites with current developer interest will result in an investment of approximately \$1 million with an estimated cleanup of \$200,000 and act as catalyst developments to the corridor with 20 new jobs. The community will benefit by eliminating the need for families to travel to purchase food supplies. Assessment costs of \$50,000 will result in a grant leverage of 22:1.

The redevelopment of priority brownfields will also result in creation of new greenspace. Each of the new planned redevelopment projects will include accessible open spaces and promote the use of pedestrian/bike paths. Winamac Rail will expand the Panhandle Pathway into the center of the town and connect the Tippecanoe State Park (located 3 miles north) to Winamac. This will allow the town to host events such as bicycle tours, road races and connect the town to campers. The Canal District will expand an existing park, trail system and cultural center. The Coalition demographics are shifting towards an older population and, with the economic downturn, residents are turning to community parks for inexpensive family recreation. These changes require an accessible trail and park systems offering family-friendly opportunities. According to the CDC, over 30% of the adult population in the Coalition is obese; many more were overweight. The redevelopment of some brownfields into greenspaces and additions to the burgeoning walking/multi-modal trail system will promote healthier lifestyles. The Coalition recognizes it must expand and connect its existing greenspace to improve the walkability of its communities and, by redeveloping some of the many brownfields with parks and greenspace will meet these requirements. Parks and urban greenspace along the waterways act as environmental and floodway buffers, keeping industry from infringing on sensitive ecosystems. Assessment of brownfields along the rivers will facilitate the Coalition's land acquisitions.

(ii) There are no U.S. EPA Environmental Workforce Development/Job Training programs in the Coalition area. The Coalition will reach out to organizations in Indianapolis (75 miles southeast) and Gary (borders KIRPC to the north) to determine if program graduates are available and will use the local Workforce Board (WorkOne), Ivy Tech Community College and PUCES to promote local hiring for brownfields redevelopment projects. The Coalition will use its connection with Purdue University (30 miles south) to link Coalition residents to the education and training required for employment in the environmental field.



5. Programmatic Capability and Past Performance:

a. Programmatic Capability: The Coalition is ready to implement an Assessment Grant and will request to begin community outreach prior to Cooperative Agreement approval. The project team will be responsible for finalizing the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Coalition partners, which has already been agreed upon in principle. The project team will determine which sites will be assessed with the grant following the MOA and **Assessment Grant Goals**. Qualifications of key project team members are discussed below:

Mr. Edwin Buswell, KIRPC Executive Director will serve as project director. Mr. Buswell has been with KIRPC since 1995. He has a Bachelor's degree in geography and a Master's degree in Regional and City Planning. Mr. Buswell is a certified planner with the American Institute of Certified Planners and certified grant administrator with the State of Indiana. As Executive Director of KIRPC he has managed over \$43 million in federal and state grants. Mr. Buswell will oversee all aspects of the grant management, run outreach and grant meetings, and work with the communities and stakeholders on redevelopment projects. Mr. Buswell will ensure all programmatic responsibilities of the Coalition are met. Mr. Buswell will be supported by Ms. Shawn Cain, KIRPC Grant Administrator. Since joining KIRPC in 2011, she has successfully administered many grant projects including U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Commerce Department, and Interior Department. She is a certified Indiana Development Block Grant Administrator and is trained in federal environmental review and labor standards. Ms. Cain will attend outreach and project meetings to be familiar with the project. Being closely involved with the grant operations, Ms. Cain can immediately serve as the replacement project director in case of the loss of Mr. Buswell. Ms. Cain and the project team will be responsible for continued operations and training a new project director. The County attorneys will assist the Coalition and developers with liability management.

The Coalition will retain a competent environmental consultant to assist in managing and tracking activities funded by the Assessment Grant and conducting ESAs using a Qualifications-Based Selection Process following the federal procurement regulations (40 CFR §31.36). The consultant will have extensive experience in U.S. EPA Assessment Grant management and the Indiana VRP, successfully managed at least 5 U.S. EPA Assessment Grants, and at least 3 successful redevelopment projects that leveraged multiple brownfields financing incentives.

KIRPC works closely with the Coalition's County Economic Development Offices (CEDOs) to promote new and existing businesses and provides access to real estate to support economic growth. The CEDOs will market brownfields and promote brownfield incentives to assist developers with site selection.

b. Audit Findings: The Coalition has not received adverse audit findings from an OMB Circular A-133 audit or an audit conducted by a federal, state, tribal, or local government inspector or similar organization.

c. Past Performance: The Coalition members have not been a previous recipient of a U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant. However KIRPC, the Coalition's lead applicant, has extensive experience managing federal and non-federal assistance agreements. Examples are listed below:

USEDA Public Works - Wolcott Corridor Infrastructure	\$2.4MM	Install water/sewer lines, water tank for 86 acre industrial park expansion	In construction w/ private investment in shell building	Private investment \$50MM; created 100 jobs
USEDA Public Works Fulton Industrial Park Infrastructure	\$597,100	Extend water service to 75 acre parcel in Industrial Park	Under construction	Expected to create 152 jobs with \$50MM investment
USEDA Public Works Starke Industrial Park Improvement	\$503,000	Improve intersections into park for larger truck access	Construction to begin Spring 2014	Spurred \$15MM development and 80 jobs
US Health and Human Services Head Start	\$1.07MM	Early education/services to low-income children	Provides services to 148 families/year	Formal monitoring twice a year
USEDA Planning Partnership	\$196,884	Provide KIRPC funding for economic development and prepare comprehensive plan	Assist 8 counties/38 micro communities with economic development, comp plan created	In 3 grant cycles, completed 30 projects with 400 jobs and \$100MM private investment

The Coalition complied with funds disbursement requirements, financial tracking, reporting requirements, submitting technical documents, documenting project progress, and auditing requirements for the listed grants. The Coalition has the procedural knowledge to successfully disburse Assessment Grant funds and track Assessment Grant expenditures.



Appendix 3 Assessment Other Factors Checklist

Name of Applicant: Kankakee-Iroquois Regional Planning Commission (KIRPC)

Please identify (with an **X**) which, if any of the below items apply to your community or your project as described in your proposal. To be considered for an Other Factor, you must include the page number where each applicable factor is discussed in your proposal. EPA will verify these disclosures prior to selection and may consider this information during the selection process. If this information is not clearly discussed in your narrative proposal or in any other attachments, it will not be considered during the selection process.

	Other Factor	Page #
	Community population is 10,000 or less.	
	Federally recognized Indian tribe.	
	United States territory.	
	Applicant will assist a Tribe or territory.	
	Targeted brownfield sites are impacted by mine-scarred land.	
	Targeted brownfield sites are contaminated with controlled substances.	
	Recent natural disaster(s) (2006 or later) occurred within community, causing significant community economic and environmental distress.	
X	Project is primarily focusing on Phase II assessments.	7, 8
X	Applicant demonstrates firm leveraging commitments for facilitating brownfield project completion by identifying amounts and contributors of funding in the proposal and have included documentation.	9
X	Community experienced manufacturing plant/power plant closure(s) (2008 or later) tied to the targeted brownfield sites or project area, including communities experiencing auto plant/power plant closures due to bankruptcy or economic disruptions.	1
	Recent (2008 or later) significant economic disruption (<u>unrelated</u> to a natural disaster or manufacturing/auto plant/power plant closure) has occurred within community, resulting in a significant percentage loss of community jobs and tax base.	
	Applicant is one of the 12 recipients, or a core partner/implementation strategy party, of a "manufacturing community" designation provided by the Economic Development Administration (EDA) under the Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership (IMCP). To be considered, applicants must clearly demonstrate in the proposal the nexus between their IMCP designation and the Brownfield activities. Additionally, applicants must attach documentation which demonstrate either designation as one of the 12 recipients, or relevant pages from a recipient's IMCP proposal which lists/describes the core partners and implementation strategy parties. A core partner/implementation strategy party is a local partner organization/jurisdiction that will carry out the proposed strategy, as demonstrated in letters of commitment or memoranda of understanding which documents their contributions, roles, and responsibilities to the partnership. EDA may provide to	

*Please note: KIRPC covers 8 counties, with 38 micro communities. No city or town in KIRPC Region exceeds 6,000 in population and 2 of 8 counties have populations of less than 10,000.

	EPA a list of the core partners/implementation strategy parties for each of the 12 “manufacturing community” designees, which EPA would use to verify this other factor.	
	Applicant will serve an area designated as a federal, state, or local Empowerment Zone or Renewal Community. To be considered, applicant must attach documentation which demonstrates this current designation.	
	Applicant is a recipient or a core partner of HUD-DOT-EPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities (PSC) grant funding or technical assistance that is directly tied to the proposed Brownfields project, and can demonstrate that funding from a PSC grant/technical assistance has or will benefit the project area. Examples of PSC grant or technical assistance include a HUD Regional Planning or Challenge grant, DOT Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER), or EPA Smart Growth Implementation or Building Blocks Assistance, etc. To be considered, applicant must attach documentation.	
	Applicant is a HUD Promise Zone community. To be considered, applicant must attach documentation.	
	Applicant is a recipient of an EPA Brownfields Area-Wide Planning grant.	

ATTACHMENT A

THRESHOLD DOCUMENTATION AND LETTERS OF COMMITMENT FROM COALITION MEMBERS



THRESHOLD CRITERIA

FY 2015 U.S. EPA BROWNFIELDS HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES AND PETROLEUM ASSESSMENT GRANT APPLICATION

Submitted By: Kankakee Iroquois Regional Planning Commission, Benton, Carroll, Jasper, Newton,
Pulaski, Starke, Warren and White Counties, Indiana

THRESHOLD CRITERIA

1. **Applicant Eligibility:** Kankakee Iroquois Regional Planning Commission (KIRPC) is a quasi-governmental entity created by State Statute (Indiana Code 36-7-7) and is applying as the lead coalition member of for KIRPC's eight county Brownfield's Coalition. The Coalition partners are the eight counties within the KIRPC planning jurisdiction. KIRPC operates under the direct order of the Commissioners of each County and has been recognized and certified by an Executive Order of the Governor of the State of Indiana, a copy of which is included Attachment A. Letters of commitment from Coalition members are included in Attachment A.
2. **Letter from the State or Tribal Environmental Authority:** A letter from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) is included in Attachment B.
3. **Community Involvement:** The Coalition understands the importance of community involvement in planning. During formation of the KIRPC Comprehensive Plan, feedback from communities guided development of goals, which included addressing priority brownfields. The Coalition identified residents, owners, local businesses, lenders, developers and concerned citizens as stakeholders for the grant project, who will be involved with assisting the Coalition with assessment site selection, reuse planning and cleanup decisions. After notice of an Assessment Grant award, the Coalition will announce the award and the availability of the draft Work Plan to the community through a press release to each of the eight county newspapers and Chambers of Commerce newsletters, and post notices on the all of the Coalition's counties' websites. The Coalition will announce the award on local area radio stations (WRIN 1560 AM, WLQI 97.7 FM, WMRS 107.7 FM) to reach less literate residents and send notices to local business leaders. The Coalition will establish a Facebook and LinkedIn group to allow community interaction during the project and include instructions on reaching these forums in all press releases and published information. Four targeted communities have concentrated Hispanic populations, so if requested the Coalition will provide Spanish translation through an existing relationship with Purdue University. Hard copies of the draft Work Plan will be located at KIRPC, Coalition communities' offices and local public libraries for access by those without computer access. The public will be able to provide comments verbally, by electronic postings/email, or in writing letters and discussed at public meetings held in each of the targeted communities and Coalition County. The draft Work Plan will be modified in response to citizen comments. To reach all residents, meeting notices will be included with tax and water bills. Following Work Plan approval, the Coalition will hold kick-off meetings in the targeted communities and Coalition counties to acquaint citizens with the project; reaffirming the **Assessment Grant Goals**. Due to the risks associated with the brownfields and in light of the serious health issues from other environmental factors (cancers, birth defects, lead levels, radon, etc.) identified in this application, the Coalition will also develop a risk-awareness educational program as part of the kick-off meetings. The educational program will be developed in-kind with local health department participation to provide information and supporting resources on both the risks associated with brownfields and other serious health risks (asbestos, lead/cadmium-based paint, radon) to begin to improve the health of the poorer citizens most impacted and unaware of these risks. To ensure the targeted communities are engaged, the project team will canvas target neighborhoods with the meeting announcements and risk awareness educational materials. Kick-off

meetings will be broadcast via webinar for citizens who cannot attend. The public will be asked to identify brownfields they feel are impacting health and welfare, which will be added to the inventory. Meeting materials/minutes will be posted on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Coalition members' websites with hard copies available at locations described above. The Coalition will present the reasoning for site selection at public meetings and solicit feedback. The Coalition will use community comments, project viability, and **Assessment Grant Goals** compatibility as metrics to access grant funds. After completing an assessment, information will flow outward to the community, notifying local stakeholders of results, and explaining health and environmental impacts. Assessment results will be posted on the Coalition members' websites, Facebook, and LinkedIn with hard copies available as previously described. If health threats are identified, written notices will be sent to impacted citizens and the local Health Department will be contacted. When cleanup and/or redevelopment planning is initiated, explanations of plans and solicitation of comments on those plans, will be implemented. The project team will hold open public monthly meetings in the micro-communities where assessments are being conducted for stakeholders to solicit feedback on the assessment grant findings and ways to promote and improve project outcomes. Monthly updates will be provided at public county/town meetings and the project team will attend community organization meetings to discuss projects results. At project close, the Coalition will hold a final public meeting to discuss the project outcomes. The presentation materials and minutes will be archived and placed in Coalition member's websites and offices, Facebook and LinkedIn with hard copies in local libraries.

4. **Site Eligibility and Property Ownership Eligibility:** This application is for a community-wide Coalition Brownfields Assessment Grant. Consequently, site eligibility and property ownership eligibility criteria are not applicable.

Information Maintained by the Office of Code Revision Indiana Legislative Services Agency

IC 36-7-7

Chapter 7. Regional Planning Commissions

IC 36-7-7-1

Application of chapter

Sec. 1. This chapter applies to any area consisting of two (2) or more counties (referred to as a "region" in this chapter).

As added by Acts 1981, P.L.309, SEC.26.

IC 36-7-7-2

Establishment

Sec. 2. (a) The legislative bodies of all the counties in a region may, by concurrent resolutions, request the establishment of a regional planning commission (referred to as a "commission" in this chapter). Official copies of the resolutions must be forwarded to the governor, who shall then appoint himself or a member of his staff to immediately notify the other members of the commission and to act as temporary chairman for the election of officers. The commission shall, by resolution, designate a name for itself that reflects the commission's role and function and that may include the words "Regional Planning Commission".

(b) This subsection applies to each commission established after July 1, 1978. A county participating in a commission is not subject to the tax imposed under section 12 of this chapter, unless all the concurrent resolutions establishing the commission accept the application of the tax.

As added by Acts 1981, P.L.309, SEC.26. Amended by P.L.144-1992, SEC.1.

IC 36-7-7-3

Counties transferring membership between commissions or joining existing commissions; procedure

Sec. 3. (a) A county may request a change in its participation from one commission to another, or request to join a commission if it is not participating, under subsection (b).

(b) The legislative body of the county must, by resolution, request the inclusion of the county in the commission. The county auditor shall transmit a copy of the resolution to the governor, the chairman of the commission, and, if applicable, the chairman of the commission that the county is requesting to leave.

(c) The commission to be joined may consider a request under subsection (b). It may, by a majority vote of all its members, adopt a resolution including the requesting county in the commission.

(d) Whenever a resolution is adopted under subsection (c), the chairman of the commission shall call a meeting to organize the enlarged commission. He shall call to this meeting all members of the commission plus:

(1) if the new county is changing its participation from one commission to another, the persons from that county who served on the commission that the county is leaving; or

(2) if the new county has not been participating, a representative of the executive of that county.

As added by Acts 1981, P.L.309, SEC.26.

IC 36-7-7-4

Members; appointment; compensation; certification; vacancies

Sec. 4. (a) The following members of the commission shall be appointed from each county in the region:

(1) A representative of the county executive who may be either a member of the executive or a person appointed by it.

(2) A representative of the county fiscal body who must be a member of the fiscal body.

(b) The following members of the commission shall be appointed from each county in the region having a population of more than fifty thousand (50,000):

(1) The county surveyor or a person appointed by the surveyor.

(2) Two (2) persons appointed by the executive of each municipality having a population of more than fifty thousand (50,000).

(3) One (1) person appointed by the executive of each of the seven (7) largest municipalities having a population of less than fifty thousand (50,000). If there are fewer than seven (7) municipalities, enough additional persons appointed by the county executive to bring the total appointed under this subdivision to seven (7).

(c) The following members of the commission shall be appointed from each county in the region having a population of less than fifty thousand (50,000):

(1) One (1) person appointed by the executive of each of the five (5) largest municipalities or of each municipality if there are fewer than five (5).

(2) If there are fewer than five (5) municipalities, enough additional persons appointed by the county executive to bring the total appointed under this subsection to five (5).

(d) One (1) voting member of the commission shall be appointed by the governor.

(e) At least two-thirds (2/3) of the commission members must be elected officials. All persons appointed to the commission must be:

(1) knowledgeable in matters of physical, social, or economic development of the region; and

(2) residents of the municipality, county, or region that they represent.

A member of the commission may also serve as a member of a plan commission in the region.

(f) Members of the commission shall serve without salary but may be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

(g) The respective appointing authorities shall certify their appointments, and the certification shall be retained as a part of the records of the commission.

(h) If a vacancy occurs by resignation or otherwise, the respective appointing authority shall appoint a member for the unexpired term. Members shall be certified annually, and their terms expire on December 31 of each year.

As added by Acts 1981, P.L.309, SEC.26. Amended by Acts 1981, P.L.310, SEC.63; P.L.144-1992, SEC.2; P.L.168-1994, SEC.1; P.L.165-2003, SEC.4.

IC 36-7-7-4.1

Repealed

(Repealed by P.L.165-2003, SEC.7.)

IC 36-7-7-5

Officers; meetings; notice; rules; record of proceedings; quorum

Sec. 5. (a) At its first regular meeting in each year the commission shall elect from its members a chairman, vice chairman, secretary, and a treasurer, not more than two (2) of whom may be from the same county. If the region is divided into subregions under section 10 of this chapter, there must be at least one (1) officer from each subregion. The vice chairman may act as chairman during the absence or disability of the chairman.

(b) The commission shall fix the time and place for holding regular meetings, but it shall meet at least quarterly and at such other times as may be established by the commission or the executive board. Special meetings of the commission may be called by the chairman or by five (5) members of the commission upon written request to the secretary. The secretary shall send to all the members at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance of a special meeting a written notice fixing the time and place of the meeting. Written notice of a special meeting is not required if the time of the special meeting has been fixed in a regular meeting, or if all the members are present at the special meeting. Notice of any meeting may be waived by a member by a written waiver filed with the secretary.

(c) The commission shall adopt rules for the transaction of business and shall keep a record of its resolutions, transactions, findings, and determinations, which is a public record.

(d) A majority of members constitutes a quorum. An action of the commission is official, however, only if it is authorized by a majority of the commission at a regular or properly called special meeting with at least one (1) member from each county in the region present.

As added by Acts 1981, P.L.309, SEC.26. Amended by Acts 1981, P.L.310, SEC.64.

IC 36-7-7-6

Executive board

Sec. 6. (a) The commission shall elect from among its members an executive board consisting of:

(1) the four (4) officers of the commission;

(2) one (1) member of the commission from each county in the region;

(3) one (1) additional member of the commission from each county in the region having a population of more than fifty thousand (50,000); and

(4) the nonvoting member of the commission appointed by the governor.

All members shall be elected by a vote of the full membership of the commission.

(b) If a vacancy occurs in the executive board a successor shall be elected from among the members in the same manner as the member whose position has been vacated.

(c) The executive board shall conduct the business of the commission, except for:

(1) the adoption and amendment of bylaws, rules, and procedures for the operation of the commission;

(2) the election of officers and members of the executive board as provided in this chapter; and

(3) the adoption of the annual appropriation budget after review by the executive board.

(d) The executive board shall meet regularly at least once each month, unless otherwise determined by its members. The executive board shall notify the full membership of the commission of all its meetings with copies of its preliminary or final agendas and shall report all its actions and determinations to the full membership of the commission.

(e) A majority of members constitutes a quorum. An action of the executive board is official, however, only if it is authorized by a majority of the board at a regular or properly called special meeting. Any action of the executive board shall be reviewed at the next regular meeting of the commission following the executive board's action, and upon the written request of a member of the commission, the action shall be brought to a vote of the full commission.
As added by Acts 1981, P.L.309, SEC.26.

IC 36-7-7-7

Powers and duties

Sec. 7. (a) The commission shall institute and maintain a comprehensive policy planning and programming and coordinative management process for the region. It shall coordinate its activities with all units in the region and shall coordinate the planning programs of all units and the state. Except when a commission exercises powers under subsection (j), the commission shall act in an advisory capacity only.

(b) The commission may provide technical assistance to any unit in the region that requests it. This technical assistance includes the provision of skills and knowledge for planning, developing, administering, improving, and securing:

(1) public and private grants-in-aid;

(2) cooperative arrangements between governments; and

(3) the performance of governmental powers and duties.

(c) The commission may divide its jurisdiction into subregions

under section 10 of this chapter for purposes appropriate to the study, analysis, or coordination of specific problems or concerns. The commission may conduct all necessary studies for the accomplishment of its duties. It may publicize and advertise its purposes, objectives, and findings and may distribute reports on them. It may provide recommendations when requested to the participating units and to other public and private agencies in matters relative to its functions and objectives and may act when requested as a coordinating agency for programs and activities of such agencies as they relate to its objectives. The commission may not implement, enter into an agreement for, or propose a program that includes interstate wastewater management or disposal.

(d) The commission may adopt by resolution any regional comprehensive or functional plan, program, or policy as its official recommendation for the development of the region, subject to the power of a county to exempt itself under section 9 of this chapter. The commission shall make an annual report of its activities to the legislative bodies of the counties and municipalities in the region.

(e) The commission may receive grants from federal, state, or local governmental entities or from individuals or foundations, and may enter into agreements or contracts regarding the acceptance or use of those grants and appropriations for the purpose of carrying out any of the activities of the commission. A county or municipality may, from time to time upon the request of the commission, assign or detail to the commission any employees to make special surveys or studies requested by the commission.

(f) For the sole purpose of providing adequate public services, the commission may acquire by grant, gift, purchase, lease, devise, or otherwise and hold, use, improve, maintain, operate, own, manage, or lease (as lessor or lessee) such real or personal property as the commission considers necessary for that purpose. The commission may apply for, receive, and expend grants, loans, or any other form of financial assistance available under any federal grant program.

(g) The commission may enter into coordinative arrangements with any adjacent county or municipality in Indiana or an adjoining state, or with an overlapping multicounty or interstate planning or development agency, state agency, or federal agency, as are appropriate to the achievement of its objectives or to address a common issue. However, the commission may not delegate any of its powers or duties.

(h) The commission may appoint advisory committees to assist in the achievement of its objectives. Members of advisory committees are not entitled to compensation for their services but may be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

(i) The commission shall act as the designated review agency and as the clearinghouse as described in federal Office of Management and Budget Circular A-95.

(j) The commission may provide administrative, management, or technical services to a unit that requests the services. The unit and the commission may enter into a contract concerning the

commission's provision of administrative, management, or technical services and the cost to the unit for the services.
As added by Acts 1981, P.L.309, SEC.26. Amended by P.L.145-1992, SEC.1.

IC 36-7-7-8

Agreements with other states

Sec. 8. Counties in the region may enter into agreements with other states, but these agreements do not affect other counties, subregions, or the region. One subregion may also contract with other subregions for services or programs.
As added by Acts 1981, P.L.309, SEC.26.

IC 36-7-7-9

Objections to program; petition

Sec. 9. Whenever the commission receives a petition signed by a majority of the commission members representing a county affected by a particular program, objecting to the establishment of the program within that county, the commission may not implement the program in that county.
As added by Acts 1981, P.L.309, SEC.26.

IC 36-7-7-10

Subregional committees

Sec. 10. (a) A commission may organize into not more than two (2) subregions and provide for the organization of two (2) subregional planning committees, and for meetings and rules of procedure of those committees. These rules of procedure shall be adopted as a part of the rules and bylaws of the commission.

(b) The actions of each subregional committee shall be referred to the other for review. The executive director and staff of the commission shall serve both subregional committees. Each subregional committee shall consider problems that do not directly affect the other subregion. Each subregional committee may hold meetings and elect a chairman and secretary from among its own members.
As added by Acts 1981, P.L.309, SEC.26.

IC 36-7-7-11

Executive director; powers and duties

Sec. 11. (a) The commission shall appoint an executive director who shall serve at the pleasure of the commission as reviewed and recommended by the executive board. The executive director must be qualified by training and

experience in the management of public agencies and knowledgeable in planning.

(b) The executive director is the chief administrative officer and regular technical advisor of the commission. Subject to supervision by the commission, the executive director:

- (1) shall execute the commission functions;
- (2) shall appoint and remove the staff of the commission;

(3) shall submit to the commission annually, or more often if required, a status report on the operation of the agency;

(4) may, with the approval of the executive board, execute contracts, leases, or agreements on behalf of the commission with other persons;

(5) is entitled, upon his written request, to be given access by all governmental agencies to all studies, reports, surveys, records, and other information and material in their possession that are required by him for the accomplishment of the activities and objectives of the commission;

(6) shall propose annually a budget for the operation of the commission and administer the budget as approved by the commission;

(7) shall keep the records and care for and preserve all papers and documents of the commission; and

(8) shall perform other duties and may exercise other powers that the commission or the executive board delegates to him.

As added by Acts 1981, P.L.309, SEC.26.

IC 36-7-7-12

Annual appropriation budget; tax levy; use of funds

Sec. 12. (a) The commission shall prepare and adopt an annual appropriation budget for its operation, which shall be apportioned to each participating county on a pro rata per capita basis. After adoption, any amount that does not exceed an amount for each participating county equal to thirty cents (\$0.30) per capita shall be certified to the respective county auditor who shall advertise the amount and establish the rate in the same manner as other county budgets. Any amount of the adopted budget that exceeds an amount equal to thirty cents (\$0.30) per capita for each participating county is subject to review by the county fiscal body in the usual manner of budget review. The tax so levied and certified shall be estimated and entered upon the tax duplicates by the county auditor and shall be collected and enforced by the county treasurer in the same manner as other county taxes are estimated, entered, collected, and enforced. The tax, as collected by the county treasurer, shall be transferred to the commission.

(b) In fixing and determining the amount of the necessary levy for the purpose provided in this section, the commission shall take into consideration the amount of revenue, if any, to be derived from the federal grants, contractual services, and miscellaneous revenues above the amount of those revenues considered necessary to be applied upon or reserved upon the operation, maintenance, and administrative expenses for working capital throughout the year.

(c) After approval no sums may be expended except as budgeted unless the commission authorizes their expenditure. Before the expenditure of sums appropriated as provided in this section, a claim must be filed and processed as other claims for allowance or disallowance, for payment as provided by law.

(d) Any two (2) of the following officers may allow claims:

- (1) Chairman.
- (2) Vice chairman.
- (3) Secretary.
- (4) Treasurer.

The treasurer of the commission may receive, disburse, and otherwise handle funds of the commission subject to applicable statutes and procedures established by the commission.

(e) The commission shall act as a board of finance under the statutes relating to the deposit of public funds by political subdivisions.

(f) Any appropriated money remaining unexpended or unencumbered at the end of the year becomes part of a nonreverting cumulative fund to be held in the name of the commission. Unbudgeted expenditures from this fund may be authorized by vote of the commission and upon other approval as required by statute. The commission is responsible for the safekeeping and deposit of such sums, and the state board of accounts shall prescribe the methods

and forms for keeping the accounts, records, and books to be used by the commission. The books, records, and accounts of the commission shall be periodically audited by the state board of accounts, and these audits shall be paid for as provided by statute.

As added by Acts 1981, P.L.309, SEC.26. Amended by P.L.144-1992, SEC.4; P.L.165-2003, SEC.5.

IC 36-7-7-13

Economic development districts; definition; payments by counties; use of funds

Sec. 13. (a) An economic development district is a group of adjacent counties that:

(1) contains at least two (2) redevelopment counties;

(2) includes an economic development growth center; and

(3) has been officially designated as an economic development district by the federal government under Title 42, U.S.C. section 3171, on the recommendation of the state.

(b) Counties may make payments to officially designated economic development districts. The board of directors of the economic development district shall determine the amount of the payments, which may be based on the assessed valuation or the population of each county, and the method of making the payments, subject to appropriations by the fiscal bodies of the counties comprising the economic development district.

(c) The economic development district may receive and expend all sums appropriated or granted to it for purposes and activities authorized by law, and shall deposit these sums in its own name and follow all accounting, bonding, and auditing procedures required by law.

(d) The economic development district is responsible for the administration, safekeeping, and deposit of any monies appropriated or granted to it, and may delegate all or part of that responsibility to a designated financial officer.

(e) The economic development district may receive grants from federal, state, or local governments for the purpose of carrying out any of the planning and development activities of the district.

(f) Any sums appropriated to an economic development district that remain uncommitted at the end of the budget year revert on a pro rata basis to the general funds of the counties comprising the district.

As added by Acts 1981, P.L.309, SEC.26.

BENTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Bryan Berry-President

Kevin P. Leuck-Commissioner

Leon R. Cyr- Vice President

December 17, 2014

Mr. Edwin Buswell, AICP
Executive Director
Kankakee Iroquois Regional Planning Commission
PO Box 127
Monon, IN 47959

RE: Benton County Coalition Commitment Letter for U.S. EPA Brownfields
Assessment Grant

Dear Mr. Buswell:

The Benton County acknowledges membership in the KIRPC Coalition (the Coalition); constituted for the purpose of applying for a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Brownfields Assessment Grant to help foster badly needed brownfields redevelopment in the Coalition's 38 micro communities.

Benton County is a General Purpose Unit of Local Government in the State of Indiana and understands the Coalition is applying for a \$600,000 U.S. EPA Brownfields Brownfield Assessment Grant, and KIRPC will serve as the lead coalition member and grant recipient/administrator. Upon award of the grant, the County understands the Coalition will be required to develop a binding Memorandum of Agreement to document the site selection process, allocation of funds, and programmatic mechanisms for implementing the grant project. Benton County fully supports the Coalition, and looks forward to using the grant funds to revitalize brownfields for mutual benefit of the Coalition communities.

As commitment to this grant the County is prepared to commit the following resources:

1. Meeting space for community outreach meetings to educate the citizens of the project and promote the risk-awareness health and safety programs, valued at \$600.
2. County economic development staff to aid in selection of sites as a member of the project team and marketing assessed brownfield sites in our county estimated to be 120 hours over the 3 year grant period, valued at \$6000 (based on a cost of \$50/hour).

706 E. 5th Street ♦ Fowler, IN 47944
765-884-1687 ♦ Fax 765-884-2075
auditor@bentoncounty.in.gov

BENTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Bryan Berry-President

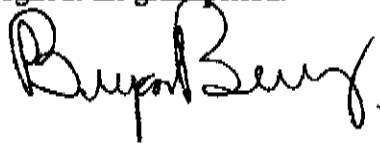
Kevin P. Leuck-Commissioner

Leon R. Cyr- Vice President

3. County equipment and labor (if needed) to perform site clearing (brush removal) at sites within our jurisdiction valued at \$3000 over course of the grant period.

Our small towns and rural communities have challenges similar to larger cities, but could not support a grant program on their own. Benton County is committed to providing support and assistance to KIRPC in this effort and looks forward to being an active partner throughout the grant period.

Sincerely,



December 15, 2014

Mr. Edwin Buswell, AICP
Executive Director
Kankakee Iroquois Regional Planning Commission
PO Box 127
Monon, IN 47959

RE: Carroll County Coalition Commitment Letter for U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant

Dear Mr. Buswell:

The Carroll County Commissioners acknowledges membership in the KIRPC Coalition (the Coalition); constituted for the purpose of applying for a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Brownfields Assessment Grant to help foster badly needed brownfields redevelopment in the Coalition's 38 micro communities.

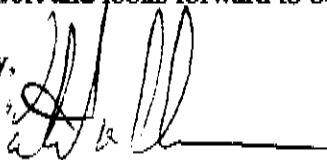
Carroll County is a General Purpose Unit of Local Government in the State of Indiana and understands the Coalition is applying for a \$600,000 U.S. EPA Brownfields Brownfield Assessment Grant, and KIRPC will serve as the lead coalition member and grant recipient/administrator. Upon award of the grant, the County understands the Coalition will be required to develop a binding Memorandum of Agreement to document the site selection process, allocation of funds, and programmatic mechanisms for implementing the grant project. Carroll County fully supports the Coalition, and looks forward to using the grant funds to revitalize brownfields for mutual benefit of the Coalition communities.

As commitment to this grant the County is prepared to commit the following resources:

1. Meeting space for community outreach meetings to educate the citizens of the project and promote the risk-awareness health and safety programs, valued at \$600.
2. County economic development staff to aid in selection of sites as a member of the project team and marketing assessed brownfield sites in our county estimated to be 120 hours over the 3 year grant period, valued at \$6000 (based on a cost of \$50/hour).
3. County equipment and labor (if needed) to perform site clearing (brush removal) at sites within our jurisdiction valued at \$3000 over course of the grant period.

Our small towns and rural communities have challenges similar to larger cities, but could not support a grant program on their own. Carroll County is committed to providing support and assistance to KIRPC in this effort and looks forward to being an active partner throughout the grant period.

Sincerely,



Patrick Clawson, President
Carroll County Commissioners

Jasper County Commissioners

115 W. Washington Street
Suite 200
Rensselaer, Indiana 47978

December 17, 2014

Mr. Edwin Buswell, AICP
Executive Director
Kankakee Iroquois Regional Planning Commission
PO Box 127
Monon, IN 47959

RE: Jasper County Coalition Commitment Letter for U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant

Dear Mr. Buswell:

The Jasper County Commissioners acknowledge membership in the KIRPC Coalition (the Coalition); constituted for the purpose of applying for a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Brownfields Assessment Grant to help foster badly needed brownfields redevelopment in the Coalition's 38 micro communities.

Jasper County is a General Purpose Unit of Local Government in the State of Indiana and understands the Coalition is applying for a \$600,000 U.S. EPA Brownfields Brownfield Assessment Grant, and KIRPC will serve as the lead coalition member and grant recipient/administrator. Upon award of the grant, the County understands the Coalition will be required to develop a binding Memorandum of Agreement to document the site selection process, allocation of funds, and programmatic mechanisms for implementing the grant project. Jasper County fully supports the Coalition, and looks forward to using the grant funds to revitalize brownfields for mutual benefit of the Coalition communities.

As commitment to this grant the County is prepared to commit the following resources:

1. Meeting space for community outreach meetings to educate the citizens of the project and promote the risk-awareness health and safety programs, valued at \$600.
2. County economic development staff to aid in selection of sites as a member of the project team and marketing assessed brownfield sites in our county estimated to be 120 hours over the 3 year grant period, valued at \$6000 (based on a cost of \$50/hour).
3. County equipment and labor (if needed) to perform site clearing (brush removal) at sites within our jurisdiction valued at \$3000 over course of the grant period.

Our small towns and rural communities have challenges similar to larger cities, but could not support a grant program on their own. Jasper County is committed to providing support and assistance to KIRPC in this effort and looks forward to being an active partner throughout the grant period.

Sincerely,

Jasper County Commissioners

Kendall Culp
James A. Mallett
Richard E. Mallett

Newton County Board of Commissioners

Kyle D Conrad • Mickey Read • Tim Drenth

September 15, 2014

Mr. [REDACTED] Buswell, AICP
Executive Director
[REDACTED]ankake, Illinois Regional Planning Commission
Box 12
[REDACTED], IN 47959

RE: Newton County Coalition Commitment Letter for U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant

Dear Mr. Buswell:

Newton County acknowledges membership in the KIRPC Coalition (the Coalition); constituted for the purpose of applying for a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Brownfields Assessment Grant to help foster badly needed brownfields redevelopment in the Coalition's 38 micro communities.

Newton County is a General Purpose Unit of Local Government in the State of Indiana and understands the Coalition is applying for a \$600,000 U.S. EPA Brownfields Brownfield Assessment Grant, and KIRPC will serve as the lead coalition member and grant recipient/administrator. Upon award of the grant, the County understands the Coalition will be required to develop a binding Memorandum of Agreement to document the site selection process, allocation of funds, and programmatic mechanisms for implementing the grant project. Newton County fully supports the Coalition, and looks forward to using the grant funds to revitalize brownfields for mutual benefit of the Coalition communities.

As commitment to this grant the County is prepared to commit the following resources:

1. Meeting space for community outreach meetings to educate the citizens of the project and promote the risk-awareness health and safety programs, valued at \$600.
2. County economic development committee member to aid in selection of sites as a member of the project team and marketing assessed brownfield sites in our county estimated to be 120 hours over the 3 year grant period, valued at \$6000 (based on a cost of \$50/hour).
3. County equipment and labor (if needed) to perform site clearing (brush removal) at sites within our jurisdiction valued at \$3000 over course of the grant period.

Our small towns and rural communities have challenges similar to larger cities, but could not support a grant program on their own. Newton County is committed to providing support and assistance to KIRPC in this effort and looks forward to being an active partner throughout the grant period.

Sincerely,

X 

Tim Drenth
Board President

PULASKI COUNTY

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

LARRY BRADY
TERRY YOUNG
TRACEY SHORTER

112 East Main Street
Courthouse, Room 200
Winamac IN 46996
Phone: (574) 946-3653
Fax: (574) 946-3928

December 1, 2014

Mr. Edwin Buswell, AICP
Executive Director
Kankakee Iroquois Regional Planning Commission
PO Box 127
Monon, IN 47959

RE: Pulaski County Coalition Commitment Letter for U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant

Dear Mr. Buswell:

Pulaski County acknowledges membership in the KIRPC Coalition (the Coalition); constituted for the purpose of applying for a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Brownfields Assessment Grant to help foster badly needed brownfields redevelopment in the Coalition's 38 micro communities.

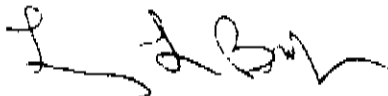
Pulaski County is a General Purpose Unit of Local Government in the State of Indiana and understands the Coalition is applying for a \$600,000 U.S. EPA Brownfields Brownfield Assessment Grant, and KIRPC will serve as the lead coalition member and grant recipient/administrator. Upon award of the grant, the County understands the Coalition will be required to develop a binding Memorandum of Agreement to document the site selection process, allocation of funds, and programmatic mechanisms for implementing the grant project. Pulaski County fully supports the Coalition, and looks forward to using the grant funds to revitalize brownfields for mutual benefit of the Coalition communities.

As commitment to this grant the County is prepared to commit the following resources:

1. Meeting space for community outreach meetings to educate the citizens of the project and promote the risk-awareness health and safety programs, valued at \$600.
2. County economic development staff to aid in selection of sites as a member of the project team and marketing assessed brownfield sites in our county estimated to be 120 hours over the 3 year grant period, valued at \$6000 (based on a cost of \$50/hour).
3. County equipment and labor (if needed) to perform site clearing (brush removal) at sites within our jurisdiction valued at \$3000 over course of the grant period.

Our small towns and rural communities have challenges similar to larger cities, but could not support a grant program on their own. Pulaski County is committed to providing support and assistance to KIRPC in this effort and looks forward to being an active partner throughout the grant period.

Sincerely,



Larry L. Brady, President
Pulaski County Board of Commissioners

**STARKE COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

53 EAST MOUND STREET

KNOX, IN 46534

574-772-9106

Jennifer Davis, President

Kent Danford

Kathryn Norem

Martin Lucas, County Attorney

Katherine Chaffins, Secretary

& Starke County Auditor

December 17, 2014

Mr. Edwin Buswell, AICP
Executive Director
Kankakee Iroquois Regional Planning Commission
PO Box 127
Monon, IN 47959

RE: Starke County Coalition Commitment Letter for U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant

Dear Mr. Buswell:

Starke County acknowledges membership in the KIRPC Coalition (the Coalition); constituted for the purpose of applying for a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Brownfields Assessment Grant to help foster badly needed brownfields redevelopment in the Coalition's 38 micro communities.

Starke County is a General Purpose Unit of Local Government in the State of Indiana and understands the Coalition is applying for a \$600,000 U.S. EPA Brownfields Brownfield Assessment Grant, and KIRPC will serve as the lead coalition member and grant recipient/administrator. Upon award of the grant, the County understands the Coalition will be required to develop a binding Memorandum of Agreement to document the site selection process, allocation of funds, and programmatic mechanisms for implementing the grant project. Starke County fully supports the Coalition, and looks forward to using the grant funds to revitalize brownfields for mutual benefit of the Coalition communities.

As commitment to this grant the County is prepared to commit the following resources:

1. Meeting space for community outreach meetings to educate the citizens of the project and promote the risk-awareness health and safety programs, valued at \$600.
2. County economic development staff to aid in selection of sites as a member of the project team and marketing assessed brownfield sites in our county estimated to be 120 hours over the 3 year grant period, valued at \$6000 (based on a cost of \$50/hour).
3. County equipment and labor (if needed) to perform site clearing (brush removal) at sites within our jurisdiction valued at \$3000 over course of the grant period.

Our small towns and rural communities have challenges similar to larger cities, but could not support a grant program on their own. Starke County is committed to providing support and assistance to KIRPC in this effort and looks forward to being an active partner throughout the grant period.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer Davis, President". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Jennifer Davis
President

**Warren County Commissioners
125 N. Monroe Street
Williamsport, Indiana 47993
765-762-3275
auditor@warrencounty.in.gov**

Monday, December 15, 2014

Mr. Edwin Buswell, AICP
Executive Director
Kankakee Iroquois Regional Planning Commission
PO Box 127
Monon, IN 47959

RE: Warren County Coalition Commitment Letter for U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant

Dear Mr. Buswell:

The Commissioners of Warren County acknowledges membership in the KIRPC Coalition (the Coalition); constituted for the purpose of applying for a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Brownfields Assessment Grant to help foster badly needed brownfields redevelopment in the Coalition's 38 micro communities.

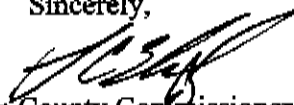
Warren County is a General Purpose Unit of Local Government in the State of Indiana and understands the Coalition is applying for a \$600,000 U.S. EPA Brownfields Brownfield Assessment Grant, and KIRPC will serve as the lead coalition member and grant recipient/administrator. Upon award of the grant, the County understands the Coalition will be required to develop a binding Memorandum of Agreement to document the site selection process, allocation of funds, and programmatic mechanisms for implementing the grant project. Warren County fully supports the Coalition, and looks forward to using the grant funds to revitalize brownfields for mutual benefit of the Coalition communities.

As commitment to this grant the County is prepared to commit the following resources:

1. Meeting space for community outreach meetings to educate the citizens of the project and promote the risk-awareness health and safety programs, valued at \$600.
2. County economic development staff to aid in selection of sites as a member of the project team and marketing assessed brownfield sites in our county estimated to be 120 hours over the 3 year grant period, valued at \$6000 (based on a cost of \$50/hour).
3. County equipment and labor (if needed) to perform site clearing (brush removal) at sites within our jurisdiction valued at \$3000 over course of the grant period.

Our small towns and rural communities have challenges similar to larger cities, but could not support a grant program on their own. Warren County is committed to providing support and assistance to KIRPC in this effort and looks forward to being an active partner throughout the grant period.

Sincerely,



Steve Eberly Warren County Commissioner



WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioners:

John C. Heimlich

Steve Burton

David Diener

December 15, 2014

Mr. Edwin Buswell, AICP
Executive Director
Kankakee Iroquois Regional Planning Commission
PO Box 127
Monon, IN 47959

RE: White County Coalition Commitment Letter for U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant

Dear Mr. Buswell:

White County acknowledges membership in the KIRPC Coalition (the Coalition); constituted for the purpose of applying for a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Brownfields Assessment Grant to help foster badly needed brownfields redevelopment in the Coalition's 38 micro communities.

White County is a General Purpose Unit of Local Government in the State of Indiana and understands the Coalition is applying for a \$600,000 U.S. EPA Brownfields Brownfield Assessment Grant, and KIRPC will serve as the lead coalition member and grant recipient/administrator. Upon award of the grant, the County understands the Coalition will be required to develop a binding Memorandum of Agreement to document the site selection process, allocation of funds, and programmatic mechanisms for implementing the grant project. White County fully supports the Coalition, and looks forward to using the grant funds to revitalize brownfields for mutual benefit of the Coalition communities.

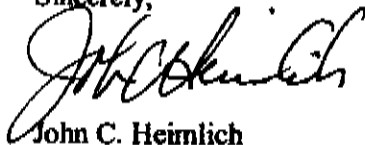
As commitment to this grant the County is prepared to commit the following resources:

1. Meeting space for community outreach meetings to educate the citizens of the project and promote the risk-awareness health and safety programs, valued at \$600.
2. County economic development staff to aid in selection of sites as a member of the project team and marketing assessed brownfield sites in our county estimated to be 120 hours over the 3 year grant period, valued at \$6000 (based on a cost of \$50/hour).

3. County equipment and labor (if needed) to perform site clearing (brush removal) at sites within our jurisdiction valued at \$3000 over course of the grant period.

Our small towns and rural communities have challenges similar to larger cities, but could not support a grant program on their own. White County is committed to providing support and assistance to KIRPC in this effort and looks forward to being an active partner throughout the grant period.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John C. Heimlich". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "H".

John C. Heimlich
President

ATTACHMENT B
LETTER FROM STATE AUTHORITY





INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

We Protect Hoosiers and Our Environment.

100 N. Senate Avenue • Indianapolis, IN 46204
(800) 451-6027 • (317) 232-8603 • www.idem.IN.gov

Michael R. Pence
Governor

Thomas W. Easterly
Commissioner

December 19, 2014

Mr. Edwin Buswell
Executive Director
Kankakee-Iroquois Regional Planning Commission (KIRPC)
115 East 4th Street, P.O. Box 127
Monon, Indiana 47959

Re: U.S. EPA Brownfields Grant Proposal
IDEM Acknowledgement Letter
Coalition Assessment
Hazardous Substances and Petroleum
KIRPC Coalition
Indiana

Dear Mr. Buswell:

This letter is provided in support of the Kankakee-Iroquois Regional Planning Commission (KIRPC) Coalition consisting of the Counties of Benton, Carroll, Jasper, Newton, Pulaski, Starke, Warren, and White (Coalition) proposal to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) for Brownfields Assessment Grant funding. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) acknowledges that KIRPC is requesting \$600,000 (\$400,000 for hazardous substances and \$200,000 for petroleum). IDEM understands that this funding will be utilized to perform environmental site assessments of priority brownfield sites, targeting five priority areas spread across the KIRPC region to help spur economic growth and provide good-paying local jobs to the poor residents of the KIRPC micro communities, and, as applicable, cleanup and redevelopment planning activities (e.g., Remediation Work Plans) for these priority brownfields.

IDEM believes that the Coalition has demonstrated its commitment to redeveloping brownfields by its Coalition county communities taking advantage of financial and technical assistance offered by U.S. EPA and the Indiana Brownfields Program in the past. This Assessment grant funding will help the Coalition continue its efforts to address brownfields within the Coalition member communities. Should an opportunity arise for the Coalition to need petroleum eligibility determinations and/or cleanup assistance at the sites investigated with this grant funding, IDEM realizes that



U.S. EPA Brownfields Grant Proposal
IDEM Acknowledgement Letter
December 19, 2014
Page 2 of 2

the Coalition will work with the Indiana Brownfields Program and/or the IDEM Voluntary Remediation Program as appropriate. IDEM and the Indiana Brownfields Program are committed to continuing their support of brownfield redevelopment in the Coalition region by providing technical assistance and program coordination.

Based on the information submitted, IDEM considers the Coalition an excellent candidate to receive U.S. EPA grant funding to continue its brownfield redevelopment efforts, which support Indiana's brownfield initiative. IDEM is pleased to assist and looks forward to continuing its partnership with the Coalition members. For further assistance, please contact Michele Oertel of the Indiana Brownfields Program toll free at (800) 451-6027, ext. 4-0235, or directly at (317) 234-0235 or at moertel@ifa.in.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce A. Oertel", is positioned above the typed name.

Bruce A. Oertel, Chief
Remediation Services Branch
Office of Land Quality

BAO/mmo

cc: *(via electronic transmission)*
Michael S. Meddock, P.E., SME

ATTACHMENT C
COMMITMENT LETTERS FOR LEVERAGING





K-IRPC *Kankakee-Iroquois Regional Planning Commission*

115 East Fourth Street, P.O. Box 127, Monon, Indiana 47959-0127

Telephone: 219.253.6658

Facsimile: 219.253.6659

www.kirpc.net

- * *Economic/Community Development*
- * *Arrowhead Country Public Transit*
- * *K-IRPC Head Start Program*
- * *Rural Transportation Planning*

December 15, 2014

Mr. Edwin Buswell, AICP
Executive Director
Kankakee Iroquois Regional Planning Commission
PO Box 127
Monon, IN 47959

RE: Leveraged Funding from Staff Resources
FY2015 U.S.EPA Brownfields Assessment Grants
KIRPC Coalition, Indiana

Dear Mr. Buswell:

The Kankakee Iroquois Regional Planning Commission (KIRPC) is providing this letter as documentation of our commitment to provide in-kind local government staff resources to support implementation of two FY2015 U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment Grants (\$400,000 for Hazardous Substances and \$200,000 for Petroleum Substances). Specifically, KIRPC will provide up to 700 hours of staff time (includes grant project manager and staff) to support programmatic, community outreach functions and site selection associated with the Assessment Grant Project. These services include preparation of quarterly reports, progress meetings, financial tracking, preparation and distribution of Project information, hosting public meetings, and coordination with U.S. EPA personnel. KIRPC will also provide the use of our meeting spaces for community outreach and Coalition partner meetings. The value of these in-kind services is approximately \$35,000 (700 hours at an average hourly rate of \$50) for staff time and \$6000 (\$2,000 for each year) of meeting space and resources.

Very truly yours,

Kankakee Iroquois Regional Planning Commission

PURDUE

UNIVERSITY

PURDUE UNIVERSITY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE
Benton County

December 15, 2014

Mr. Edwin Buswell, AICP
Executive Director
Kankakee Iroquois Regional Planning Commission
PO Box 127
Monon, IN 47959

RE: Community Commitment for U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment Grants
KIRPC Coalition, Indiana

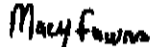
Dear Mr. Buswell:

The Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service (PUCES) is pleased to support your application for two FY2014 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Brownfields Assessment Grants to assess and promote redevelopment of brownfield sites located in the KIRPC Region.

PUCES would be pleased to commit our facility for your use in conducting community outreach meetings (valued at \$200 per meeting). We recently moved into a new facility that can accommodate up to 75 people. As an Agriculture and Natural Resources Associate Educator, I am all too aware of the issues and threats brownfields represents to our citizens, ecosystems and groundwater supply. Our region relies heavily on our agricultural business and a safe groundwater supply is crucial to economic well-being. PUCES would be happy to also commit to assist KIRPC in public outreach on the grant project.

PUCES fully supports the KIRPC Coalitions efforts and we are excited to be part of your team!

Sincerely,



Macy Fawns
Ag & Natural Resource Extension Educator
Benton County Extension Office



405 S Grant Avenue • PO Box 512 • Fowler, IN 47944 • ph 765.884.0850 • fax 765.884.1614 • www.benton.k12.in.us

December 14, 2014

Mr. Edwin Buswell, AICP
Executive Director
Kankakee Iroquois Regional Planning Commission
PO Box 127
Monon, IN 47959

RE: Community Commitment for U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment Grants
KIRPC Coalition, Indiana

Dear Mr. Buswell:

Benton Central Jr.-Sr. High School is pleased to support your application for two FY2015 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Brownfields Assessment Grants to assess and promote redevelopment of brownfield sites located in the KIRPC Region. We are excited the grant will assist new development in the Town of Boswell.

If awarded, Ms. Kelly Kepner, Benton County Economic Development Director and I have agreed to develop and incorporate a classroom exercise discussion about Brownfields and economic development into the high school economic curriculum at Benton Central. The estimate to develop the curriculum exercise will require 20 hours of our time each valued at \$1,800 (40 hours @ \$45/hour) and an additional 20 hours of the environmental consultant time valued at \$2,000. Further we understand that KIRPC will utilize our lesson plan to present the educational lesson to the other KIRPC school districts which will require an additional \$3,000 of in-kind services. We agree this is a great opportunity to create a positive relationship between the schools and communities while providing an education for our youth! Benton Community Schools will also assist KIRPC with public outreach to notify students and parents of community meetings in our community to promote the risk-awareness educational program. Only through education of our citizens and redeveloping brownfields can we start reversing unacceptable exposure risks such as the high blood lead-levels in our children.

Benton Community Schools fully supports the KIRPC Coalition's efforts and we are excited to be part of your team!

Sincerely,

Gregg H. Hoover
Superintendent
Benton Community School Corporation

Starke County Environmental Management District
3835 E 250 N Ste. B, Knox, Indiana 46534

December 15, 2014

Mr. Edwin Buswell, AICP
Executive Director
Kankakee Iroquois Regional Planning Commission
PO Box 127
Monon, IN 47959

RE: Community Support for U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment Grants
KIRPC Coalition, Indiana

Dear Mr. Buswell:

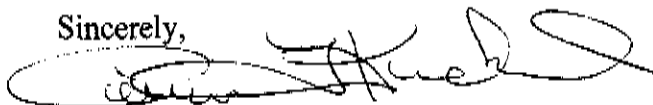
The Starke County Environmental Management District (SCEM) is an "Indiana Solid Waste District". Solid Waste Districts were formed to reduce the volume of waste being discarded into Indiana landfills. Goals of the district are to preserve and enhance our environment, natural resources, and public health and safety, by leading in the proper management of solid waste. We accomplish this through the following:

- Coordinating the implementation of integrated solid waste management programs
- Recycling, Composting, Pharmaceutical recovery, E-waste recycling, White Good recycling
- Supporting and coordinating all existing municipal and county recycling efforts throughout Starke County
- Educating youth and adults, particularly schoolchildren through environmental education emphasizing the importance of reducing, reusing and recycling to preserve our environment
- Hazardous Waste Management
- Encouraging voluntary participation in recycling, reduction and reuse; encouraging the development of environmentally sound solid waste management programs in business and industry.

SCEM is excited to be a partner in your grant project, and look forward to being a resource to the Coalition on deconstruction techniques in lieu of demolition on brownfield redevelopments and other sustainable waste reduction techniques. We can also serve as a liaison between the Coalitions by linking KIRPC with our existing network. We are prepared to commit up to 60 hours over the 3-year grant period to assist the KIRPC Coalition, valued at over \$2,400.

We also understand the coalition is targeting redevelopment in the area West Knox and we support redevelopment of the area to create new job opportunities for Starke County. SCEM fully supports the KIRPC Coalition's efforts and we are excited to be part of the team!

Sincerely,



December 15, 2014

Mr. Edwin Buswell, AICP
Executive Director
Kankakee Iroquois Regional Planning Commission
PO Box 127
Monon, IN 47959

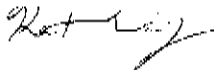
RE: Commitment Letter for U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment Grants
KIRPC Coalition, Indiana

Dear Mr. Buswell:

The Nature Conservancy Wabash Rivers Initiative (TNC WRI) is pleased to be a community partner with the KIRPC Coalition for the purpose of assisting with the implementation of a U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant. The TNC WRI is committed to conservation of the KIRPC area's rivers and tributaries and is passionate about conservation efforts of wetlands, streams, wildlife and parks and active in teaching outdoor ethics and promoting responsible outdoor recreation. Protecting nature and preserving life is our mission, and our lands and waters are what provides that essential food, shelter, and water for all forms of life. The TNC WRI's role in the grant project will be to assist the Coalition in public outreach and risk-awareness education program to our members and other groups committed to environmental stewardship, assist the Coalition in identifying sites that we believe might be impacting the river ecosystems and resource stewardship and provide input into brownfield redevelopment projects within the KIRPC Coalition to ensure new projects are protective of our sensitive ecosystems as it mirrors the WRI strategy and TNC's mission and goals. We strongly support your application for the grant as we understand the damage that is being done to our sensitive ecosystems from past industrial practices.

TNC WRI fully supports the KIRPC Coalition, and looks forward to assisting with revitalizing brownfields for the benefit and protection of our natural resources.

Sincerely,



Kent Wamsley

Carroll County Wabash & Erie Canal, Inc.

1030 West Washington Street
Delphi, IN 46923

December 15, 2014

Mr. Edwin Buswell, AICP
Executive Director
Kankakee Iroquois Regional Planning Commission
PO Box 127
Monon, IN 47959

RE: Letter of Commitment for U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment Grants
KIRPC Coalition, Indiana

Dear Mr. Buswell:

The Wabash and Erie Canal Association (WECA) is pleased to support your application for two FY2014 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Brownfields Assessment Grants to assess and promote redevelopment of brownfield sites located in the KIRPC Region and City of Delphi.

As you know, the WECA is a citizen organization that for the past 30 years has diligently restored over 3 miles of the Wabash and Erie Canal system, assisted with the construction of 14 miles of linear parks and built the acclaimed Wabash and Erie Canal Interpretive Center, voted the Best New Volunteer Driven Museum in the United States in 2006! We are proud of our preservation efforts that have included numerous canal structures, historic bridges and a train depot. Our organization has learned a lot over the years in historic preservation, linear park construction and leveraging funding. We are also excited that the brownfield grant funds could assist WECA achieve our long term goals. The former Peters-Revington brownfield adjoins our canal interpretive center and canal park. Despite being an eyesore and potential exposure hazard to our park visitors; our long term plans to expand a museum into a portion of the building, finally be able to pave our driveway into the park and expand both our campsites and staging and restoration areas are being impeded by the site. This grant would be of great assistance to WECA.

WECA would be happy to assist the KIRPC Coalition by utilizing our existing community organization to assist you with public outreach and education about brownfields and to assist the Coalition with historic building preservation insight and provide guidance on rails to trails and linear park construction programs. We understand the Town of Winamac is interested in a trail expansion and our knowledge could be helpful. We are prepared to commit up to 60 hours of our organizations time to assist in this project, valued at approximately \$3000. WECA fully supports the KIRPC Coalitions efforts and we are excited to be part of your team!

Sincerely,



Daniel McCain, President

ATTACHMENT D

LETTERS FROM COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS



Mayor
Randy J. Strasser



201 South Union Street
Delphi, Indiana 46725
Phone (765) 564-3020
e-mail: mayor@cityofdelphi.org
www.cityofdelphi.org

December 10, 2014

Mr. Edwin Buswell
Executive Director
Kankakee Iroquois Regional Planning Commission
PO Box 127
Monon, IN 47959

RE: KIRPC Brownfields Assessment Grant

Dear Mr. Buswell:

The City of Delphi would like to express its support for the KIRPC EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant application. We believe the assessment and potential clean-up of Brownfield properties within our city is vital to the future growth and development of our city. The former Peters-Revington industrial site is an eyesore and potential hazardous property that is a key site for our future economic growth. We would welcome a potential opportunity to further investigate this site and others within the city. The City of Delphi fully supports the efforts of KIRPC to address a need for Brownfield Assessments in Delphi and throughout the KIRPC region.

Sincerely,

Randy J Strasser, Mayor
City of Delphi

City of Knox

101 W. Washington
Knox, IN 46534

Rick Chambers
Mayor

Mr. Edwin Buswell
Executive Director
Kankakee Iroquois Regional Planning Commission
PO Box 127
Monon, IN 47959

RE: KIRPC Brownfields Assessment Grant

Dear Mr. Buswell:

As Mayor of the City of Knox, I would like to express the city's support for the KIRPC EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant application. We believe there are potential sites within our city that would greatly benefit from the assessment process. Redevelopment of currently underdeveloped properties would provide a boost to our economic growth and also address potential environmental concerns. The KIRPC Brownfield Assessment project would be the first step towards seeing these potentially hazardous sites redeveloped. We look forward to working with KIRPC on this program and fully support your efforts to address this need within the KIRPC Region.

Sincerely,



Rick Chambers
Mayor



City of Monticello
Kenneth P. Houston
Mayor

December 10, 2014

Mr. Edwin Buswell
Executive Director
Kankakee Iroquois Regional Planning Commission
PO Box 127
Monon, IN 47959

RE: KIRPC Brownfields Assessment Grant

Dear Mr. Buswell:

The City of Monticello would like to express its support for the KIRPC EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant application. The redevelopment of abandoned or underdeveloped sites within our city is an important aspect of our economic growth. We believe the proposed brownfield assessment program would be a key tool to identify potentially hazardous sites and help us develop a strategy to address the needs of these sites within our city and region. We look forward to working with KIRPC on this program and fully support your efforts to address this need within our community.

Sincerely,

Ken Houston
Mayor

TOWN OF MONON

Box 657
Monon, Indiana 47959
219/253-6441

December 16, 2014
Mr. Edwin Buswell
Executive Director
Kankakee Iroquois Regional Planning Commission
PO Box 127
Monon, IN 47959

RE: KIRPC Brownfields Assessment Grant

Dear Mr. Buswell:

The Town of Monon would like to express its support for the KIRPC EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant application. The assessment of brownfield properties can be an important tool in redeveloping sites that have become abandoned and are an eyesore to the community. We also believe it is important to address potential environmental pollution concerns on these properties. We look forward to working with KIRPC once the assessment grant is awarded.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rosie Cooley".

Rosie Cooley
Town Council President



STEPHEN A. WOOD, Mayor
FRIEDA BRETZINGER, Clerk-Treasurer

CITY OF RENSSELAER

RENSSELAER, INDIANA

COUNCIL MEMBERS

WILLIAM HOLLERMAN, First Ward
RUSSELL OVERTON, Second Ward
GEORGE T. COVER, Third Ward
ERNEST WATSON, Fourth Ward
SCOTT BARTON, At-Large

December 10, 2014

Mr. Edwin Buswell
Executive Director
Kankakee Iroquois Regional Planning Commission
PO Box 127
Monon, IN 47959

RE: KIRPC Brownfields Assessment Grant

Dear Mr. Buswell:

The City of Rensselaer is pleased to support the KIRPC EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant application. The assessment of abandoned or underdeveloped properties within the KIRPC Region is key to the future development of our region and the City of Rensselaer. These sites are an eyesore and limit potential development on surrounding properties. Redevelopment of currently underdeveloped properties would provide a boost to our economic growth and also address potential environmental concerns. The KIRPC Brownfield Assessment project would be the first step towards seeing these potential hazardous sites redeveloped. We look forward to working with KIRPC on this program and fully support your efforts to address this need within the KIRPC Region.

Sincerely,

Stephen A. Wood
Mayor
The City of Rensselaer, Indiana
124 S. VanRensselaer St PO Box 280
Rensselaer, IN 47978
Office: (219) 866-5212
Email: mayorwood@cityofrensselaer.in.com

SW/ps
CC: File